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Science Center

# Presentation of 2016 SCRS Meeting Results and Advice

2016 Fall Meeting of the  
Advisory Committee to the U.S. Section to the  
International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas  
October 13<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> 2016      Silver Spring, MD

A large school of Western Atlantic Bluefin Tuna swimming in deep blue water. The fish are sleek, silver, and have prominent dorsal fins. They are swimming in a coordinated pattern, with some fish in the foreground and others further back, creating a sense of depth and movement. The water is a deep, clear blue, and the overall scene is captured in a cinematic style.

# Western Atlantic Bluefin Tuna



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# Western Bluefin Highlights

- WBFT Catch in 2015 was 1,839 t (including discards)
- Last stock assessment was in 2014
- 6 of the 8 abundance indices were updated through 2015
- the 2014 projections were updated by replacing the assumed catches for 2014 and 2015 (=TAC) with the actual values (< TAC)
- The 2016 projections for wBFT indicated only slight changes in predicted SSB and F from the 2014 projections.
- The SCRS concluded that no change was warranted to the advice provided in 2014
- Next stock assessment planned for 2017

# DATA PREPARATORY WORKSHOP

New data, new questions and new debates!



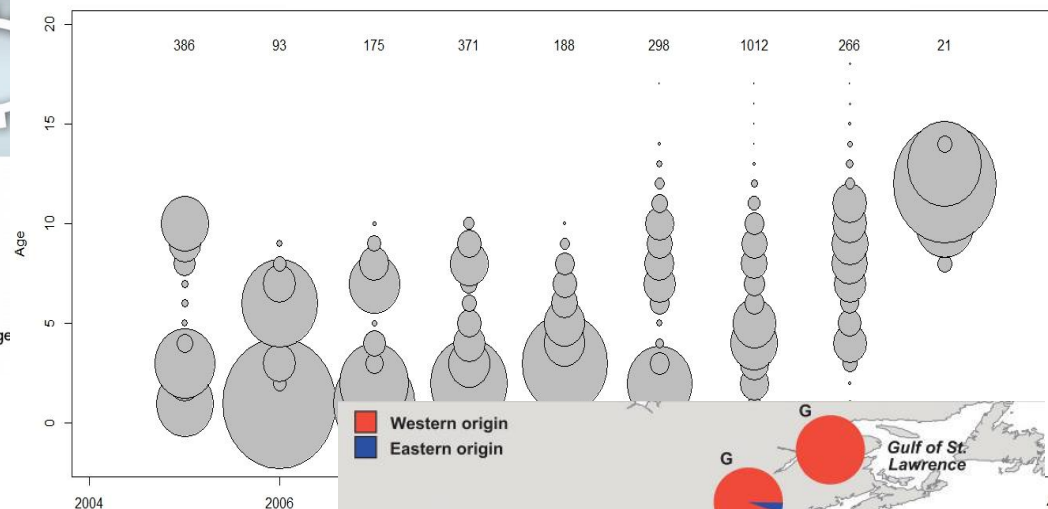
OPEN

## Sexual maturity in western Atlantic bluefin tuna

Gilad Heinisch<sup>1,2</sup>, Hanna Rosenfeld<sup>3</sup>, Jessica M. Knapp<sup>1,2</sup>, Hillel Gordin<sup>3</sup> & Molly E. Lutcavage

SUBJECT AREAS:  
ICHTHYOLOGY  
REPRODUCTIVE BIOLOGY

## Stock and Age-length keys!



## Discovery of a spawning ground reveals diverse migration strategies in Atlantic bluefin tuna (*Thunnus thynnus*)

David E. Richardson<sup>a,1</sup>, Katrin E. Marancik<sup>b</sup>, Jeffrey R. Guyon<sup>c</sup>, Molly E. Lutcavage<sup>d</sup>, Benjamin Galuardi<sup>e,f</sup>, Chi Hin Lam<sup>d</sup>, Harvey J. Walsh<sup>a</sup>, Sharon Wildes<sup>c</sup>, Douglas A. Yates<sup>c</sup>, and Jonathan A. Hare<sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Northeast Fisheries Science Center, National Marine Fisheries Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Narragansett, RI 02882;

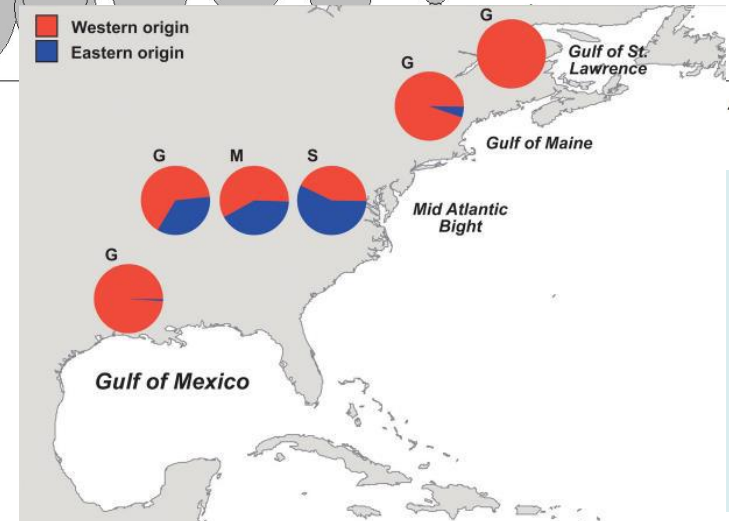
<sup>b</sup>Integrated Statistics, Contractor for Northeast Fisheries Science Center, National Marine Fisheries Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric

Administration, Narragansett, RI 02882; <sup>c</sup>Alaska Fisheries Science Center, National Marine Fisheries Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric

Administration, Juneau, AK 99801; <sup>d</sup>Large Pelagics Research Center, School for the Environment, University of Massachusetts Boston, Gloucester, MA 01931;

<sup>e</sup>School of Marine Science and Technology, University of Massachusetts Dartmouth, Fairhaven, MA 02719; and <sup>f</sup>Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries

Office, National Marine Fisheries Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Gloucester, MA 01930

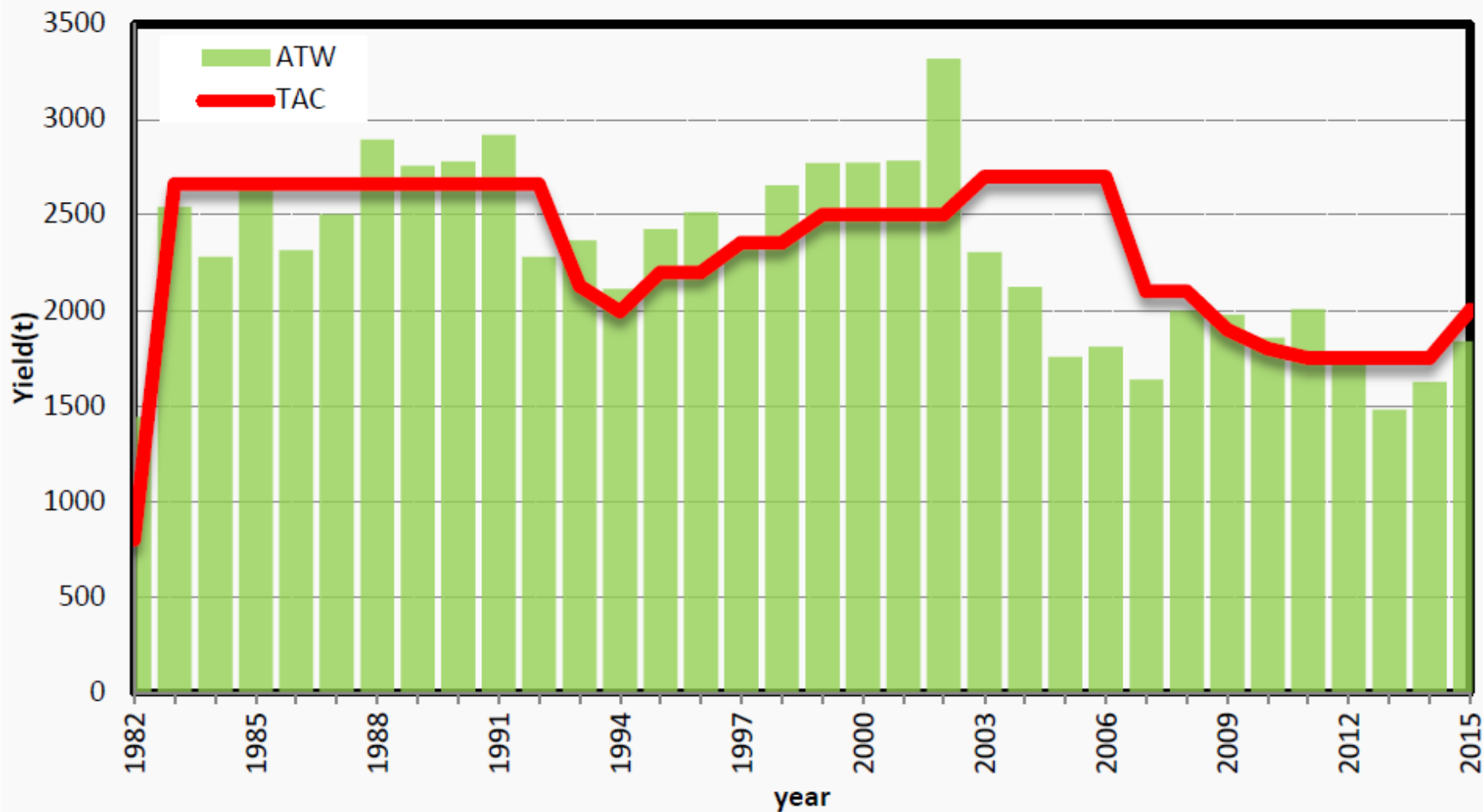


# DATA PREPARATORY WORKSHOP

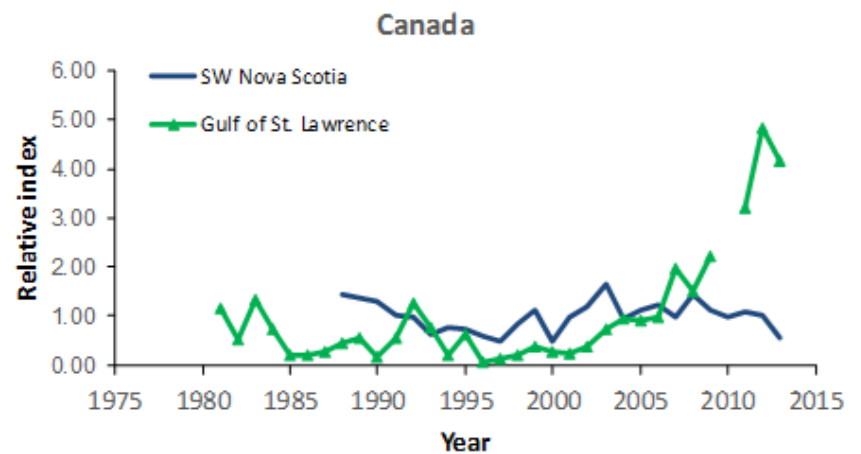
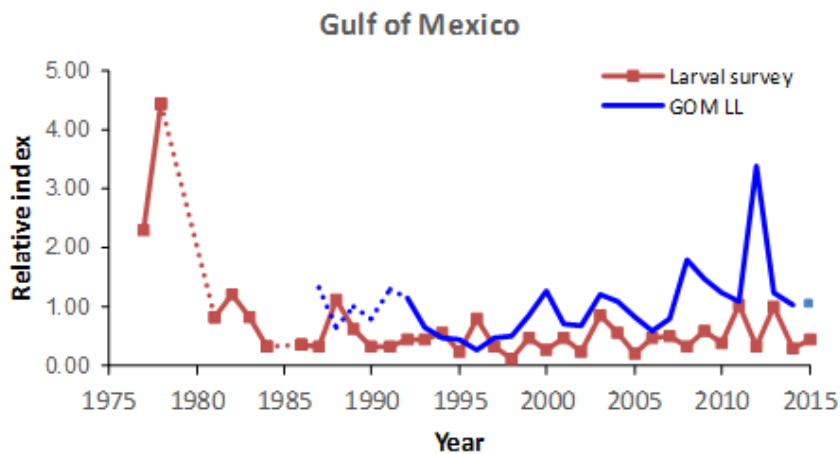
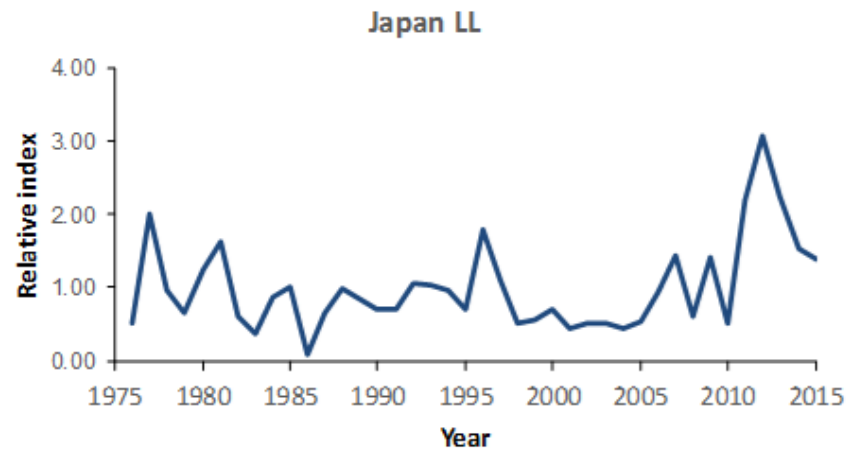
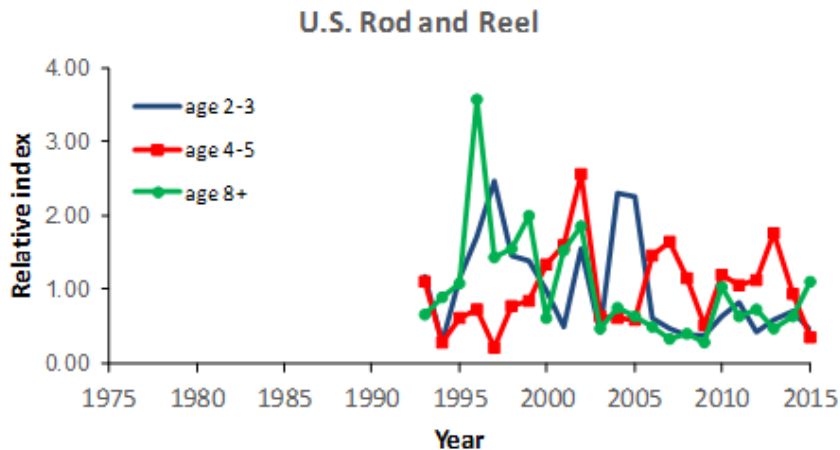
Promising new abundance indices are being developed for the 2017 data preparatory meeting :

- A combined U.S.-Canada pelagic longline observer index for the Northwest Atlantic.
- A combined Canada-U.S. rod and reel, handline, and harpoon index
- Joint Canada, Japan, Mexico and USA longline index covering the entire northwestern Atlantic
  - Workshop held 2016 and another planned for early 2017
  - Represents a major collaborative effort of the CPCs involved
  - Initial analysis suggests that it may be possible to combine some or all of the datasets into a multi-fleet index with broad temporal and spatial coverage.
- A fishery independent index based on BFT observations in the Gulf of St Lawrence herring acoustic survey (1994-2015) that shows consistent trends with the corresponding fishery dependent index but with a less-rapid increase after 2009.

BFT-WEST Atlantic stock (Task-I) total catch & TAC's



# Most of the updated abundance indices show recent declines





# Stock Status for 2013 Unchanged (no new assessment)

## WEST ATLANTIC BLUEFIN TUNA SUMMARY (Catches and Biomass in t)

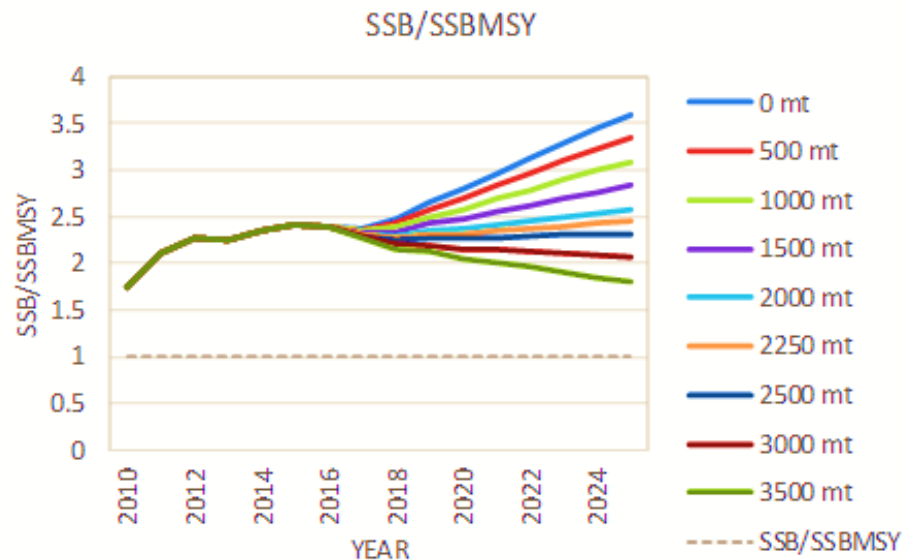
Current (2014) Catch (including discards)			1,626 t
Assumed recruitment		Low potential	High potential
Maximum Sustainable Yield (MSY)		3,050 (2807-3307) <sup>1</sup>	5,316 (4,442-5863) <sup>1</sup>
SSB <sub>MSY</sub>		13,226 (12,969-13,645) <sup>1</sup>	63,102 (50,096-72,921)
SSB <sub>2013</sub> /SSB <sub>MSY</sub>		2.25 (1.92-2.68) <sup>1</sup>	0.48 (0.35-0.72) <sup>1</sup>
F <sub>MSY</sub>		0.20 (0.17-0.24) <sup>1</sup>	0.08 (0.07-0.10) <sup>1</sup>
F <sub>0.1</sub>		0.12 (0.11-0.13) <sup>1</sup>	0.12 (0.11-0.13) <sup>1</sup>
F <sub>2010-2012</sub> /F <sub>MSY</sub> <sup>2</sup>		0.36 (0.28-0.43) <sup>1</sup>	0.88(0.64-1.08) <sup>1</sup>
F <sub>2010-2012</sub> /F <sub>0.1</sub>		0.60 (0.50-0.72) <sup>1</sup>	0.60 (0.50-0.72) <sup>1</sup>
Stock status		Overfished: NO	Overfished: YES
		Overfishing: NO	Overfishing: NO



# UPDATED OUTLOOK

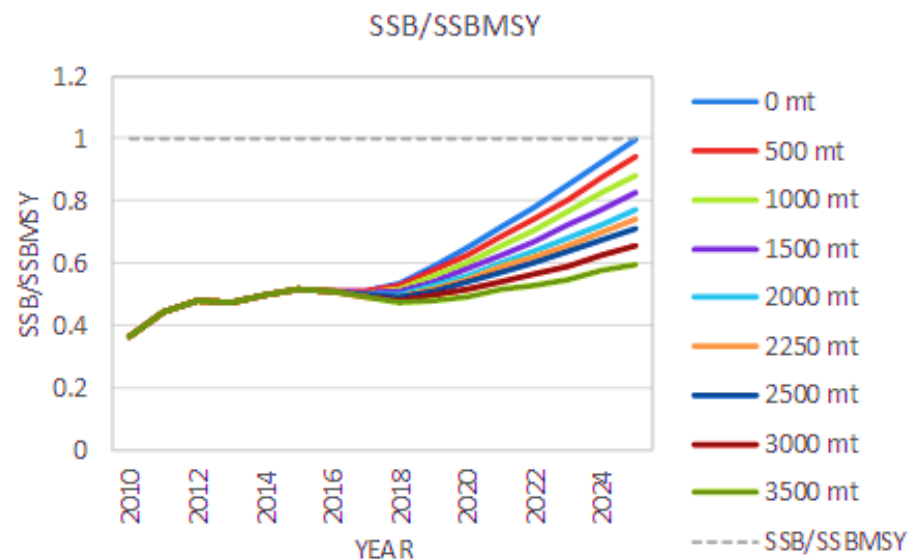
2016 projections with updated catches slightly higher than indicated in 2014 because realized catches in 2014-2015 < TAC

50% Probability  
Low Recruitment



Low recruitment scenario suggests stock is above MSY. Catches of less than 2,250 t are estimated to allow SSB to be at or above 2014 levels by 2019 (with 50% probability)

50 % Probability  
High Recruitment



The high recruitment potential scenario suggests the stock will not achieve MSY levels by 2019 even with no catch, although catches less than 2,500 t are predicted to prevent overfishing.

## Stock Status for 2015 (based on updated projections)

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	Low Potential	High Potential
$SSB_{2015}/SSB_{MSY}$	2.41 (2.05-2.96)	0.48 (0.35-0.72)
$F_{2013-2015}/F_{MSY}^1$	0.28 (0.22-0.36)	0.68 (0.37-0.78)
$F_{2013-2015}/F_{0.1}^1$	0.48 (0.40-0.58)	0.48 (0.40-0.58)

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<sup>1</sup>  $F_{2013-2015}$  refers to the geometric mean of the estimates for 2013-2015 (a proxy for recent F levels).

***Estimates of the fishing mortality and the spawning stock biomass relative to the reference point and 80% confidence interval using the updated projections***

***NOTE: These estimates are NOT from an updated stock assessment that would use updated CPUE, age composition, and other information.***

# Management recommendations

- The SCRS still not in the position to favor either the high or low recruitment potential (suggests moving away from that dichotomy)
- The SCRS considered that the new information received this year did not necessitate any change to the advice given last year regarding the implications of various catch levels
- The SCRS noted the projections suggested an increase in SSB for 2014-2015, but most of the indices for large fish decreased (implying the projections may be overly optimistic)

A photograph of two Eastern Atlantic Bluefin Tuna swimming in clear blue water. The fish in the foreground is larger and more prominent, showing its sleek, silver body and pointed snout. The second fish is partially visible behind it, also swimming in the same direction. The text "Eastern Atlantic Bluefin Tuna" is overlaid in a bold, yellow font across the middle of the image.

# **Eastern Atlantic Bluefin Tuna**

# Eastern Bluefin Highlights

- EBFT Catch in 2015 was 16,201 t, slightly higher than TAC (16,142 t)
- The 2014 projections were updated with actual 2014 and 2015 catches
- Only possible to update Japan longline and Morocco trap indices
- Indices difficult to update due to changing regulations and fishing practices
- 2016 eBFT projections indicated only slight changes in SSB and F
- Projections may be overly optimistic due to high and unconfirmed 2004-2007 recruits and recent decline in indices
- New assessment planned for 2017, potential new indices (aerial survey larval index), revised catch at size



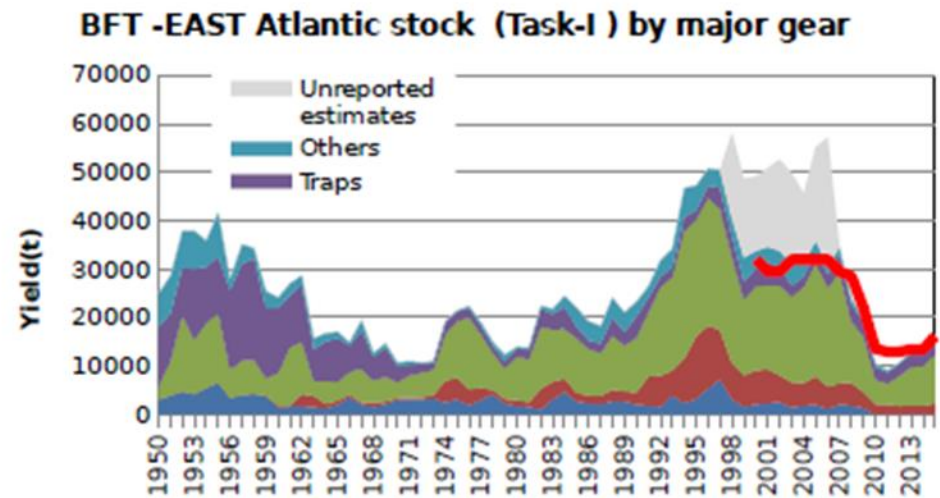
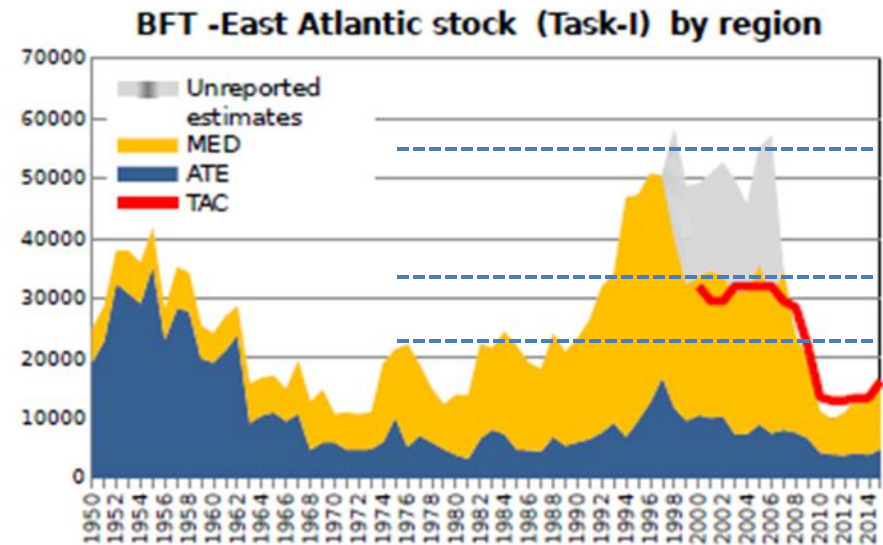
## EBFT Landings and TAC

Decrease from mid- 2000s due to rebuilding plan and enforcement.

CATCH	TAC
2012: 10,934 t	12 900 t
2013: 13,244 t	13 400 t
2014: 13,250 t	13 400 t
2015: 16 201 t	16 142 t
2016:	19 296 t
2017:	23 155 t

MSY (dashed lines):

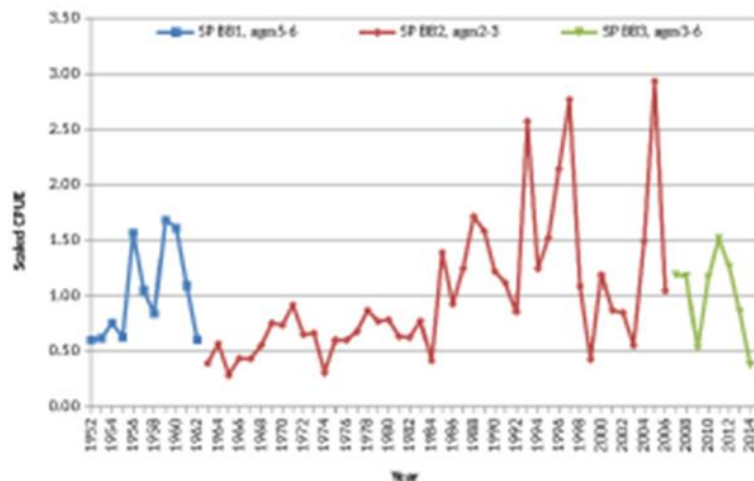
23,000 t (low)  
33,600 t (med)  
55,900 t (high)



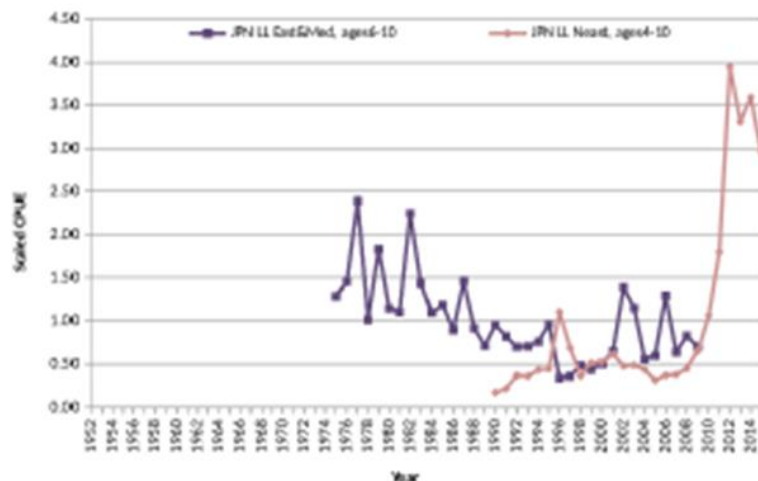


## Fishery Trends and Indicators

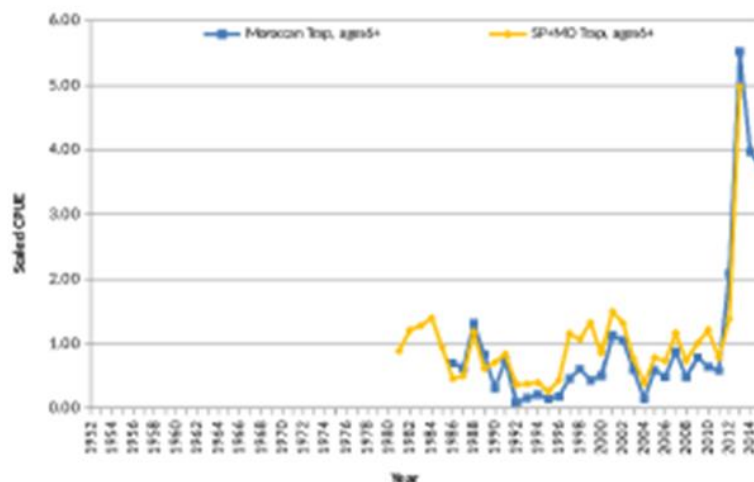
Spanish Bait boat in the Bay of Biscay (East Atlantic)



Japanese Longline (N\_East Atl. & E\_Atl. and Med.)



Moroccan & Spanish Traps (East Atlantic)



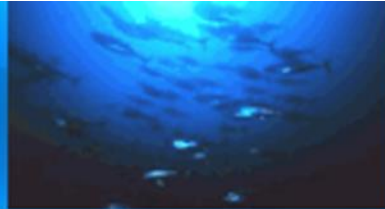
Norwegian Historical Purse Seine (East Atlantic)



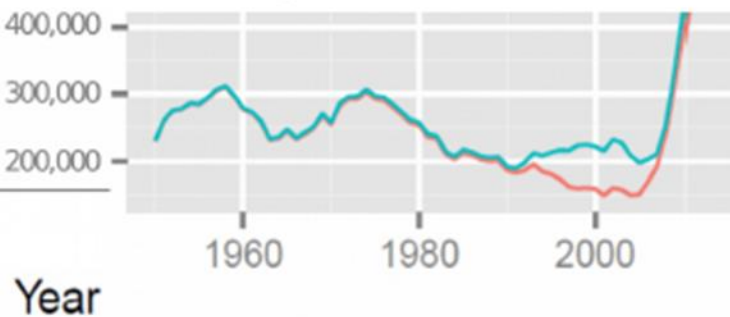
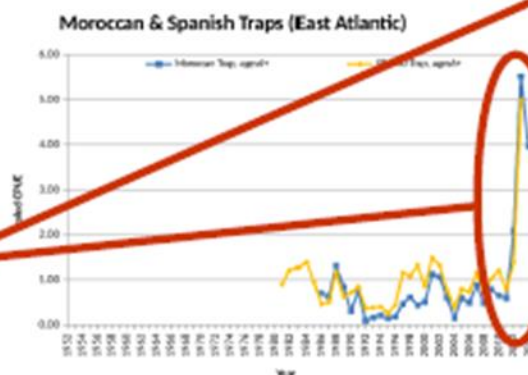
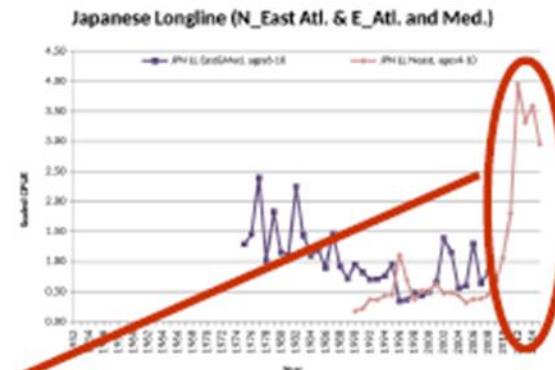
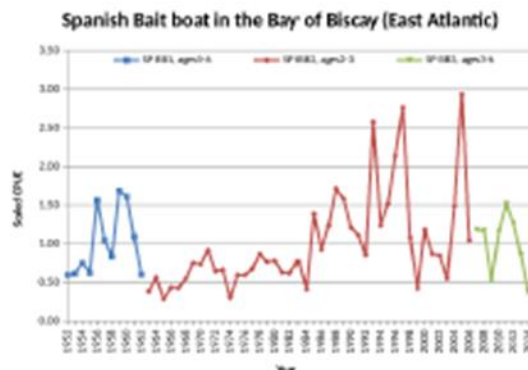
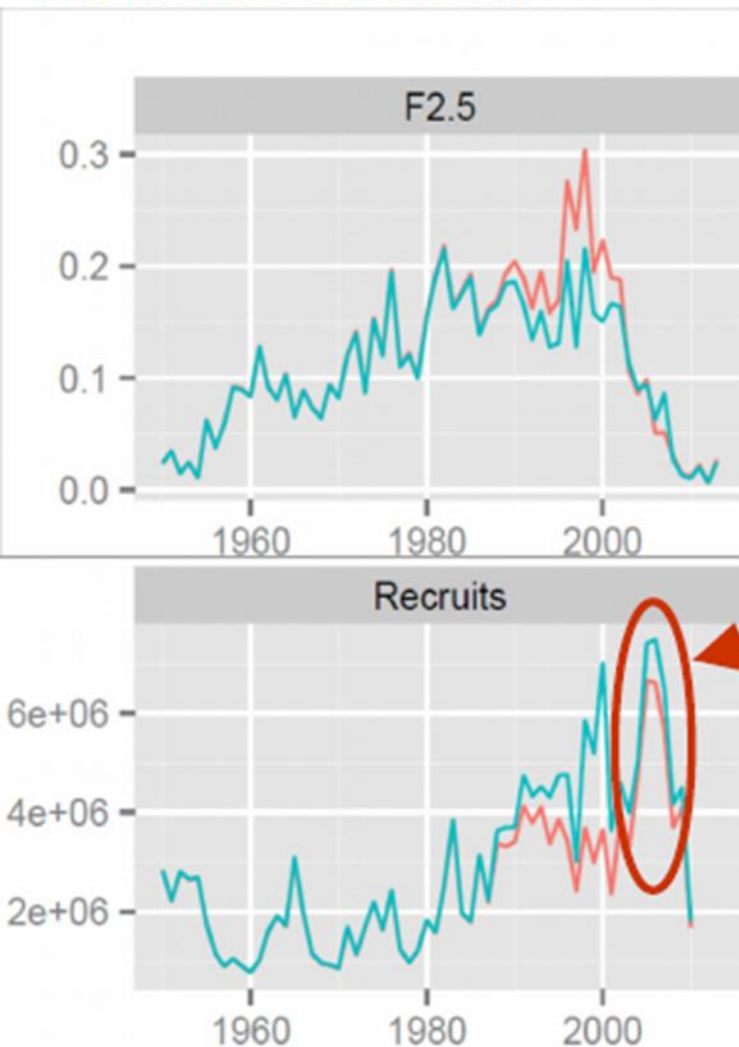




ICCAT CICTA CICAA



## State of the stock



## Stock Status for 2013 Unchanged (no new assessment)

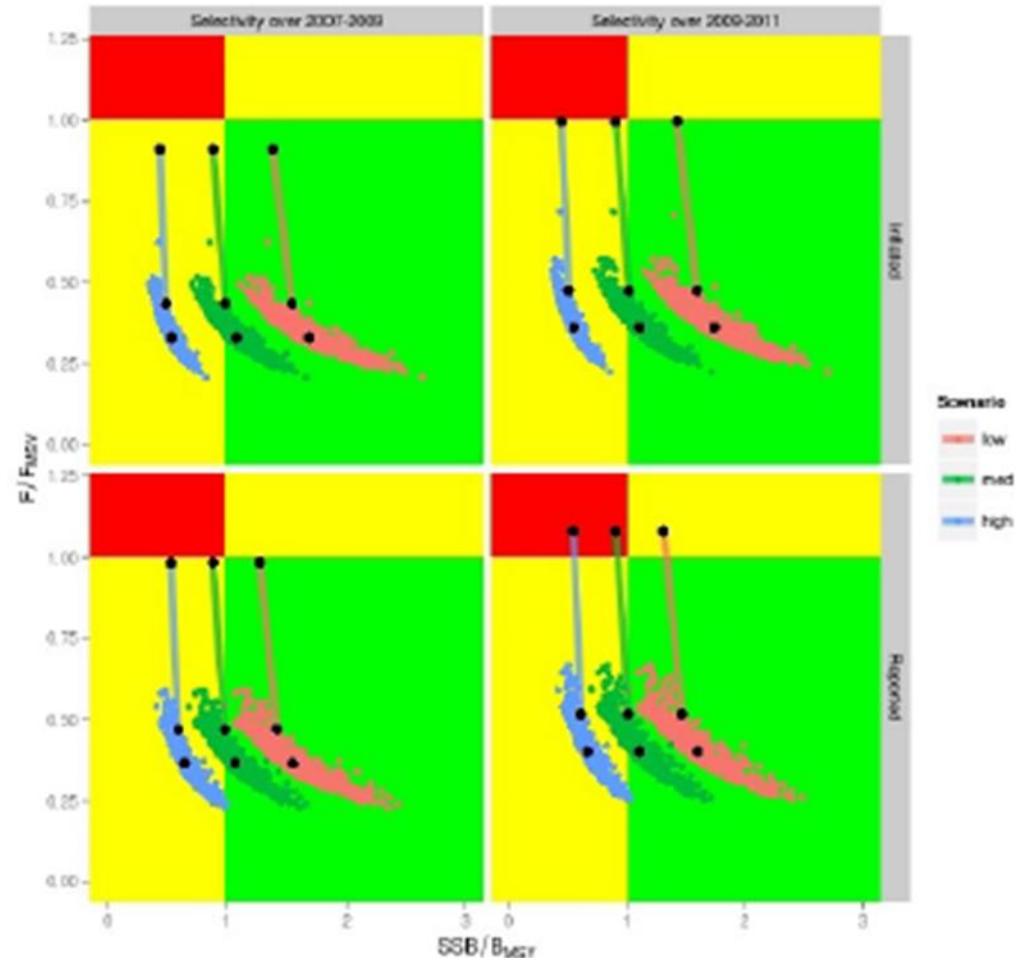
The stock status has significantly improved since 2012, as  $F_{2013} < F_{0.1}$

- $F_{2013}/F_{0.1} = 0.40$  (reported)
- $F_{2013}/F_{0.1} = 0.36$  (inflated)

and SSB is most likely above the level expected at  $F_{0.1}$

- $SSB_{2013}/SSB_{F_{0.1}} = 1.10$  (reported)
- $SSB_{2013}/SSB_{F_{0.1}} = 1.11$  (inflated)

Those ratios depend on:  
 (i) the selectivity patterns,  
 (ii) total catch,  
 (iii) mean recruitment levels (more pessimistic for high recruitment (0.55) than low recruitment (1.74))





## State of the stock

Simple update of projections with realized 2014 and 2015 catch

	Reported		Inflated	
	Projected 2015 status	2013 status	Projected 2015 status	2013 status
$F/F_{0.1}$	0.37	0.4	0.33	0.36
$SSB/SSB_{F0.1}$				
Low recruitment	1.83	1.6	1.98	1.74
Medium recruitment	1.29	1.1	1.3	1.11
High recruitment	0.82	0.67	0.7	0.55

- Projections may be overly optimistic given declines in indices
- TAC (2016-2017) 19,296 t –23,155 t



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# 2016 YELLOWFIN TUNA STOCK ASSESSMENT

## Data Preparatory Meeting:

- March 7 to 11, 2016

## Assessment Meeting:

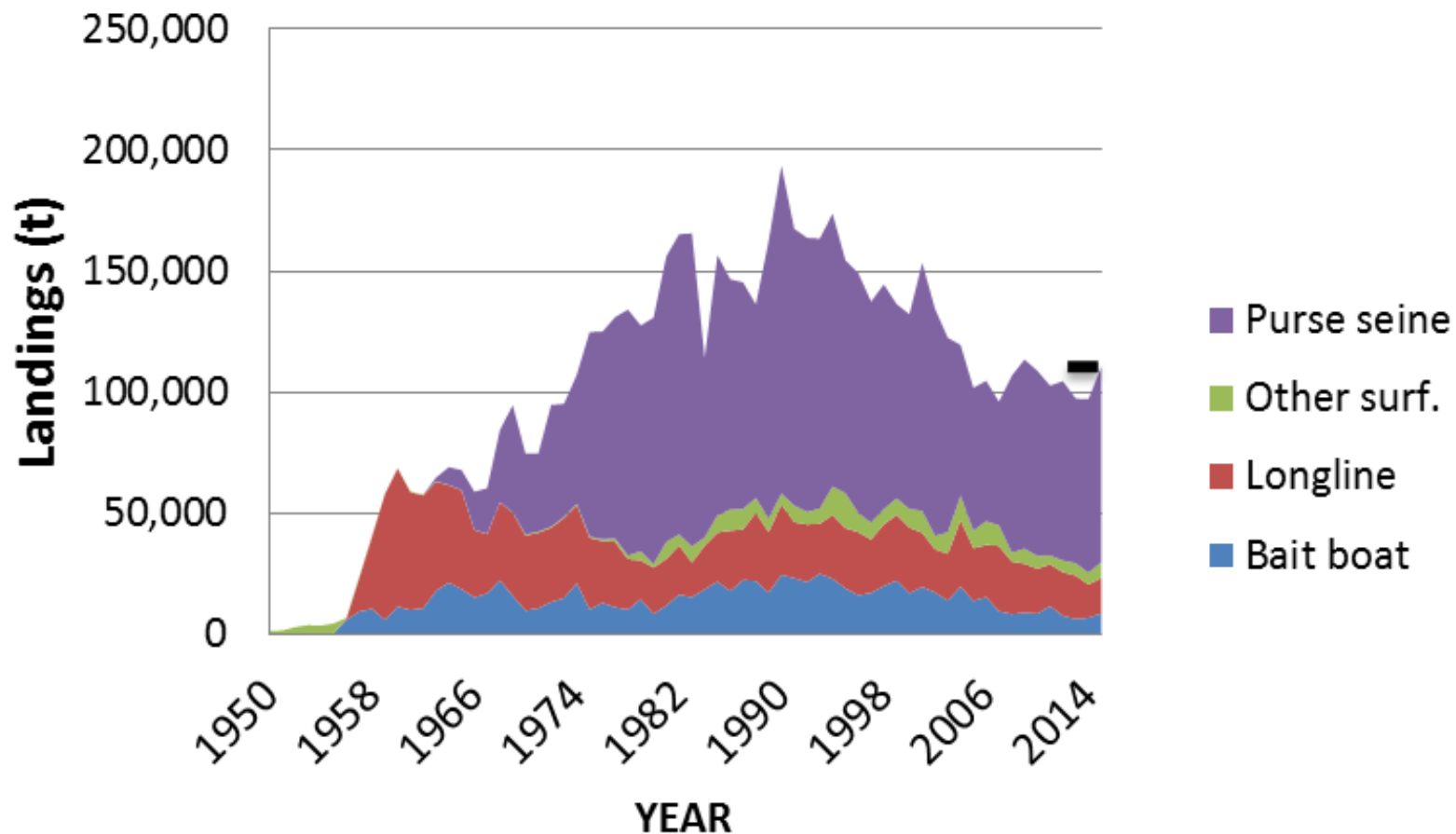
- 27 June to 1 July 2016



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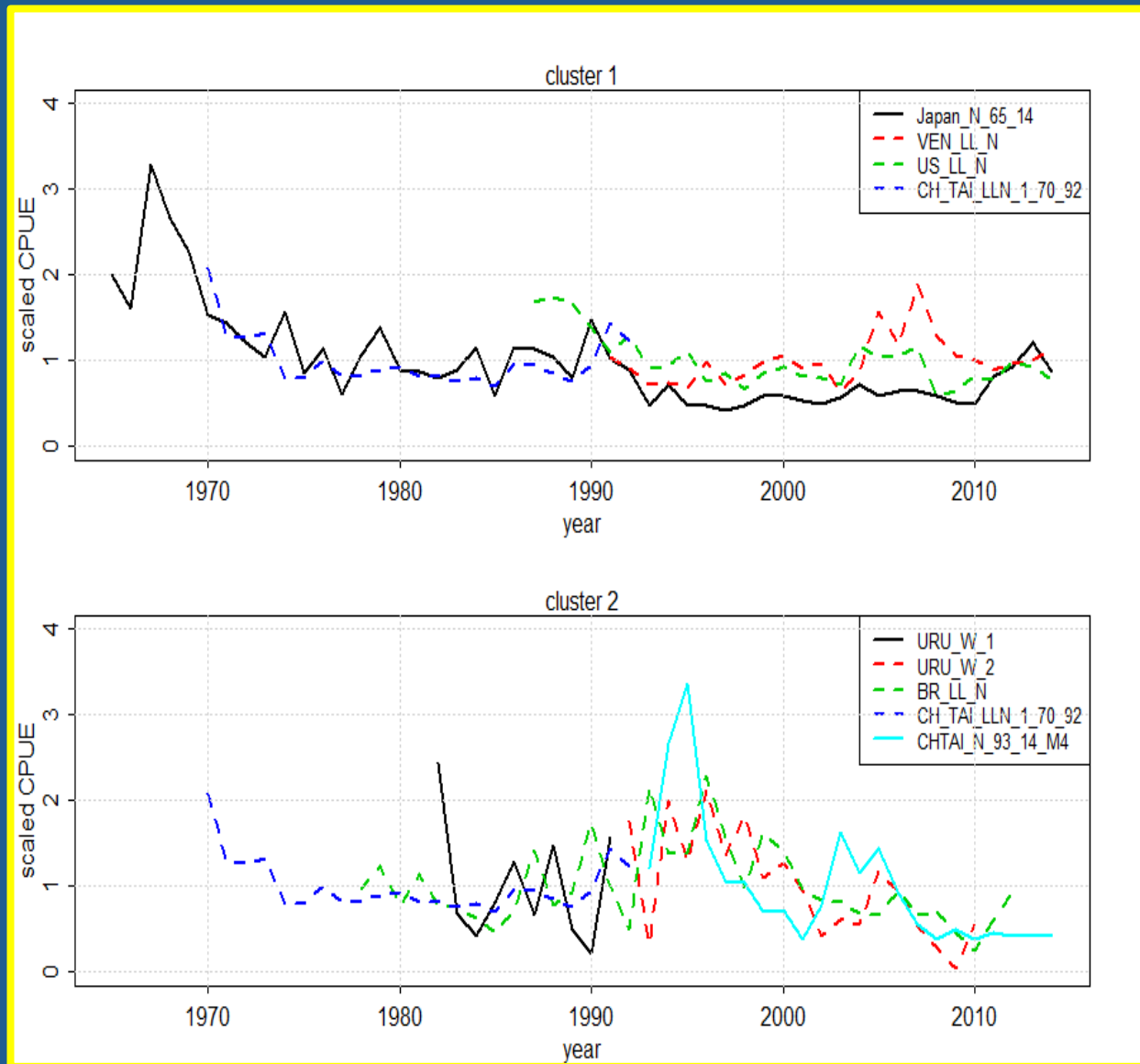


# YFT-Task 1



- Total Landings increased to 194,000 t by 1990, then decreased by nearly 50% to 109,810 t in 2015
- Since 2012, TAC = 110,000 t

- 8 LL indices met inclusion criteria (e.g. full documentation, evaluation of diagnostics).
- Two index “clusters” were identified - represents two hypotheses regarding trends in abundance.



## Some notable changes to stock assessment:

- New maturity and natural mortality at age vectors calculated.
- Only longline abundance indices available
- Three age-structured models and a non-equilibrium surplus production model were applied to the available data through 2014.
- Two major sources of scientific uncertainty were examined:
  - use of index clusters that reflect two disparate trends in abundance
  - effect of alternative model structures and assumptions.





# Stock Status

- For a given cluster, trends in  $B/B_{MSY}$  were similar for all models, although small differences in current stock status were noted

ASPIC

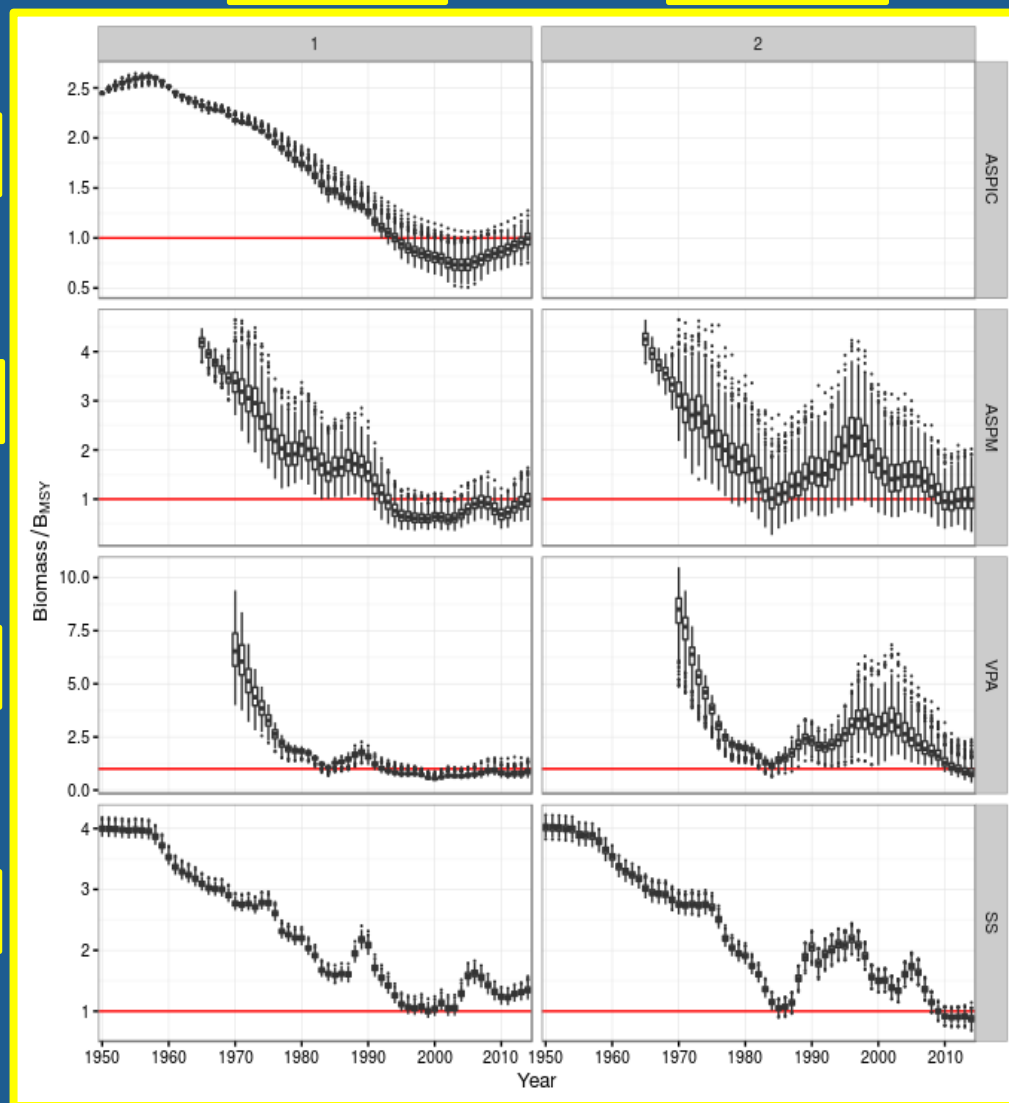
ASPM

VPA

SS

CLUSTER 1

CLUSTER 2



# Stock Status

- For a given cluster, trends in  $F/F_{MSY}$  were similar for all models, although small differences in current stock status were noted

ASPIC

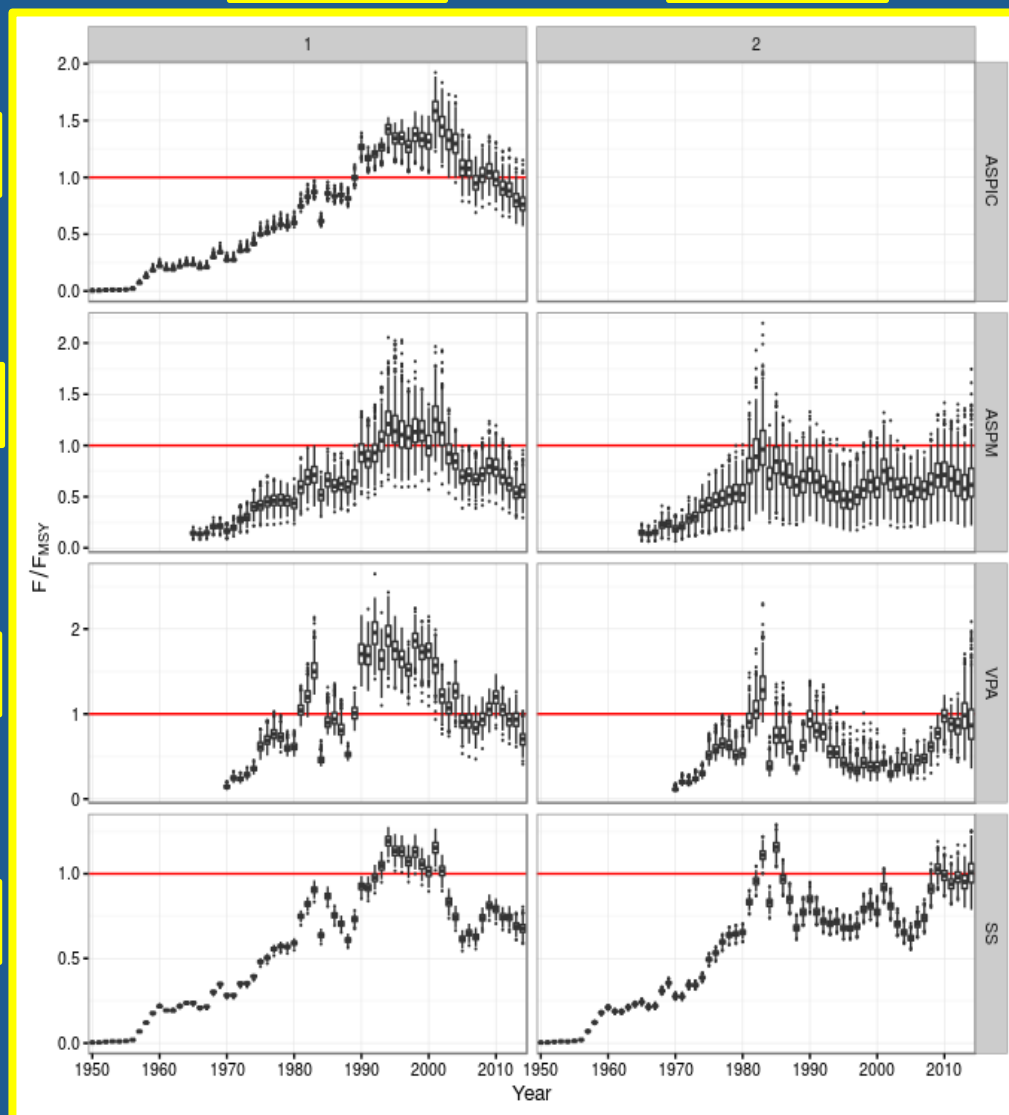
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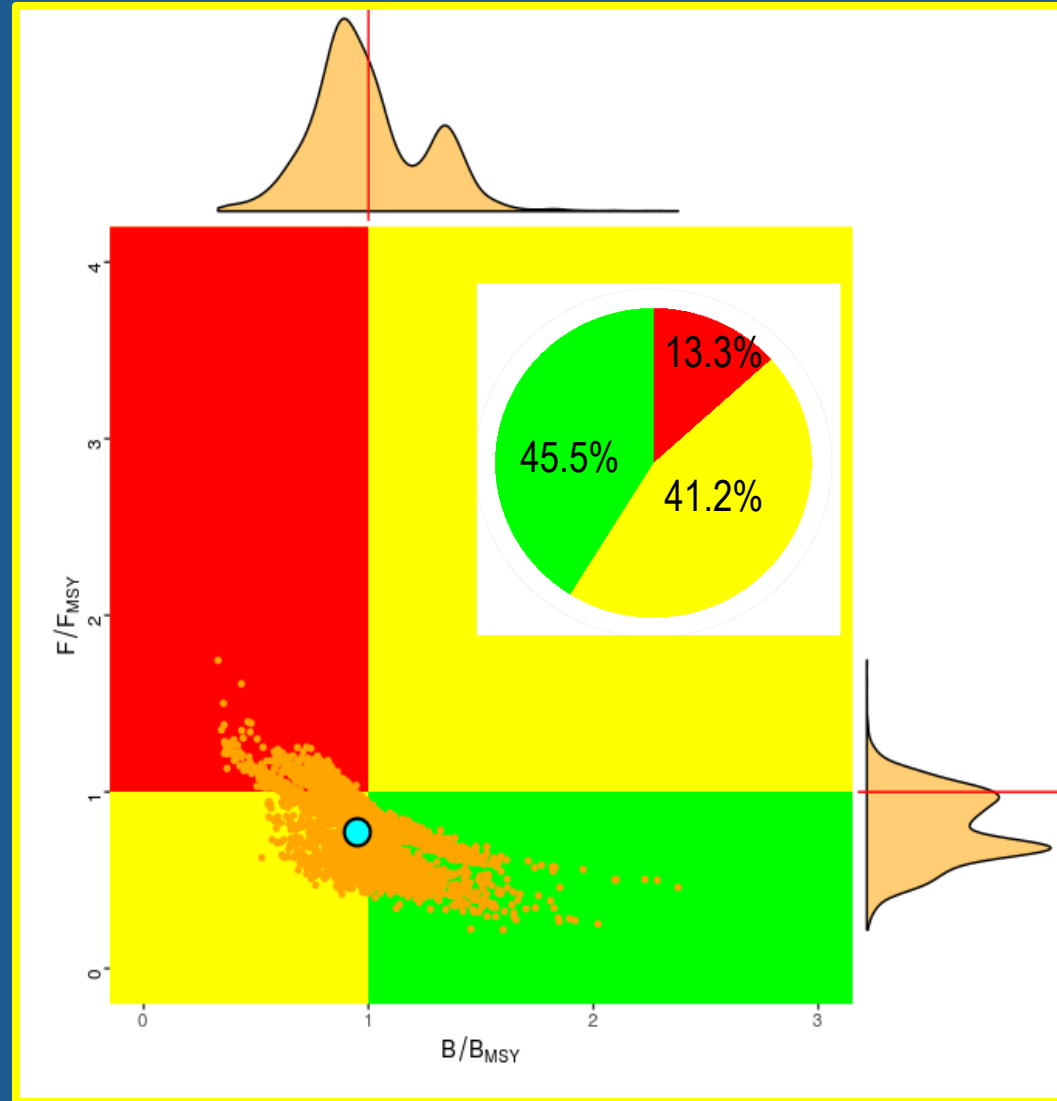
SS

CLUSTER 1

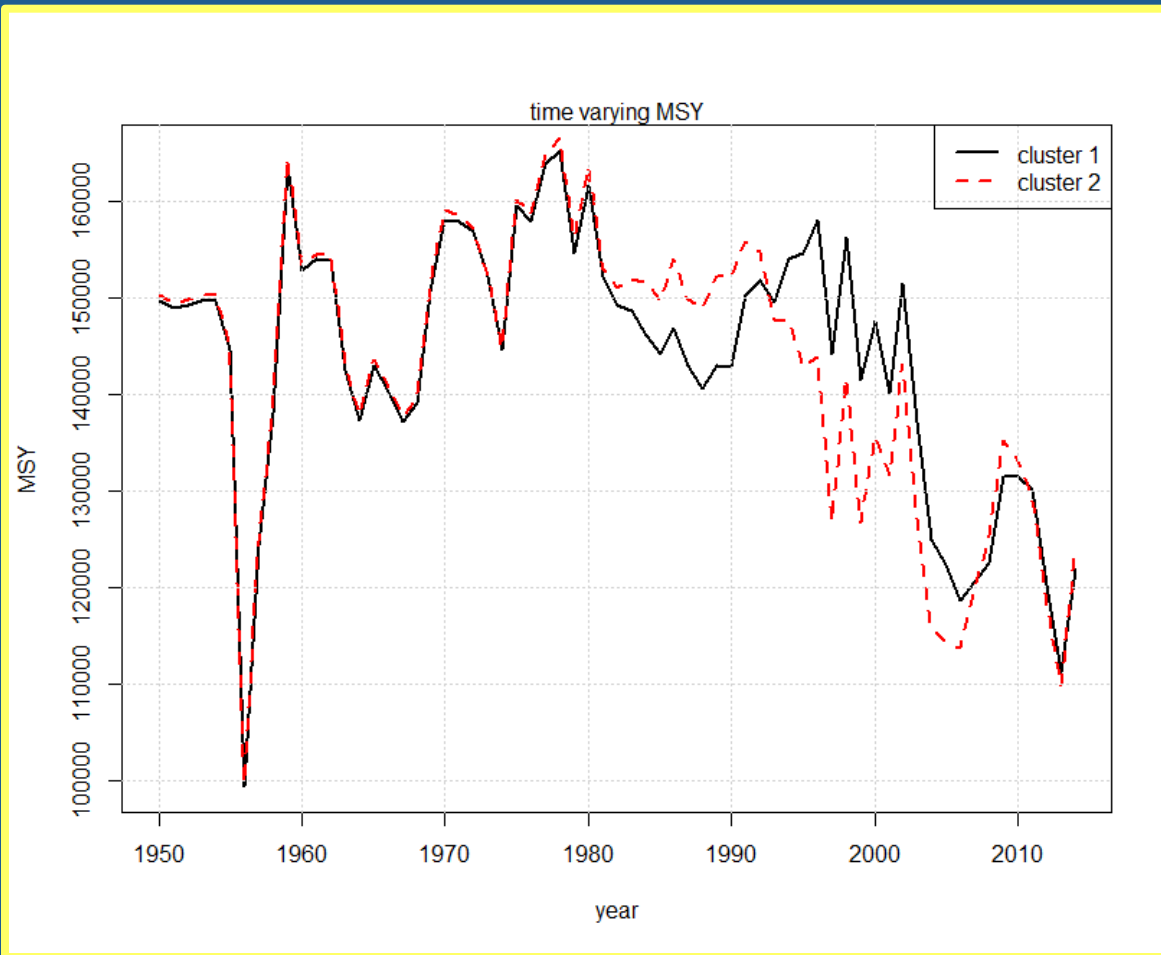
CLUSTER 2



- Combined 7 models, equally weighted.
- $B_{2014}/B_{MSY} = 0.95$   
 $F_{2014}/F_{MSY} = 0.77$   
 $MSY = 126,000 \text{ t}$
- Overfished/Not Overfishing



# Conditional MSY varies with Selectivity



- Estimates of current MSY may be below what was achieved in past decades because overall selectivity has shifted to smaller fish since 1980s.

# Management Recommendations

- Maintaining the current TAC of 110,000 t maintains healthy stock status through 2024 with >68% probability, increasing to 97% by 2024.
- Similar to 2011; catches of 110,000 t would rebuild to, or maintain healthy stock status through 2017 with >64% probability, increasing to 77% by 2024.

Joint Probability that  $B > B_{MSY}$  and  $F < F_{MSY}$

TAC	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
60,000	75	91	99	99	99	99	100	100
70,000	74	87	97	99	99	99	99	99
80,000	73	86	96	99	99	99	99	99
90,000	71	82	91	97	99	99	99	99
100,000	70	80	89	92	96	97	99	99
110,000	68	78	85	90	92	95	96	97
120,000	65	73	79	78	79	80	82	82
130,000	57	59	61	61	57	54	50	48
140,000	45	44	38	33	31	31	31	30
150,000	31	24	21	20	19	20	20	20

Current  
TAC



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# 2016 ALBACORE STOCK ASSESSMENT



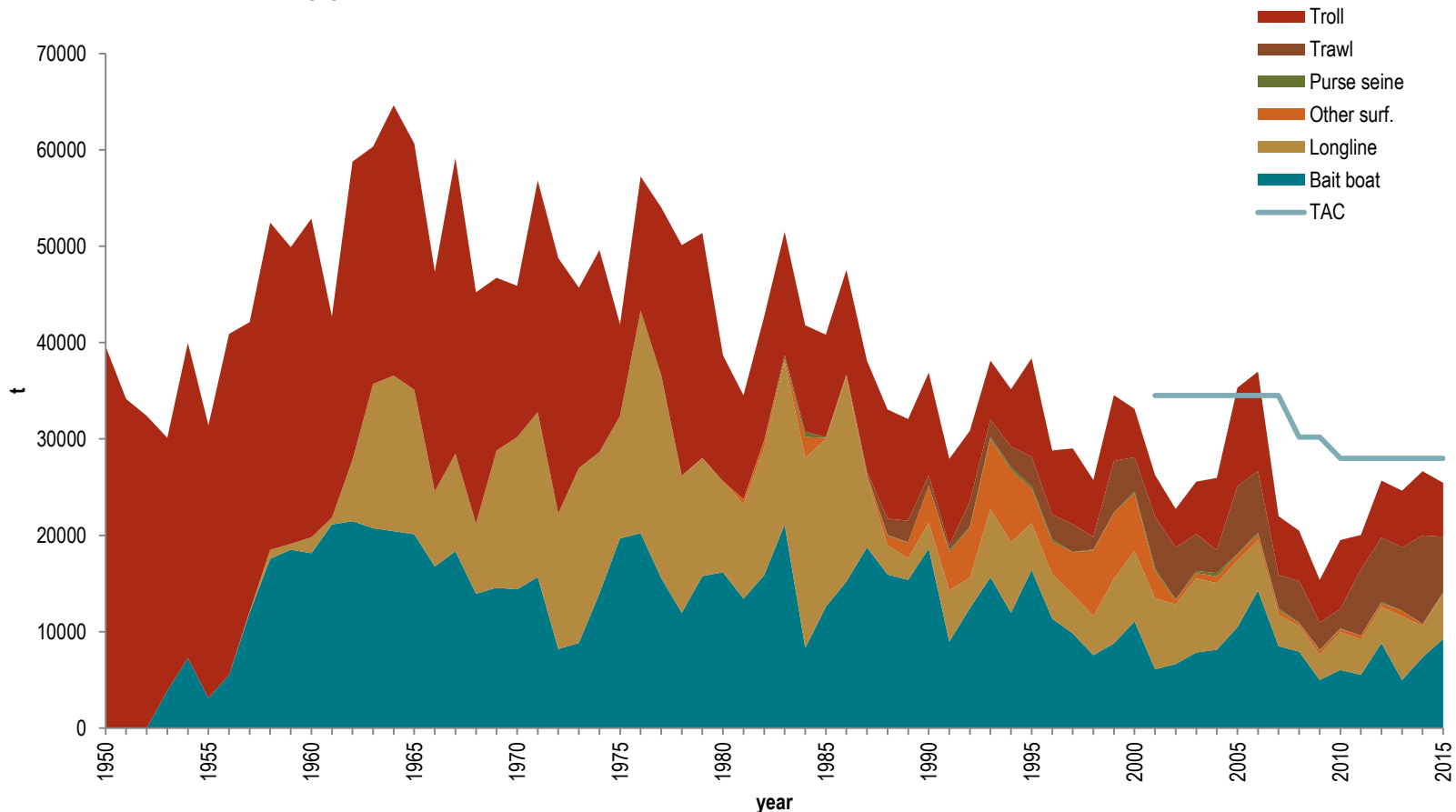
# North Atlantic Albacore

## Catch (mt) by Gear Type:

2006-2015 Catches below TAC



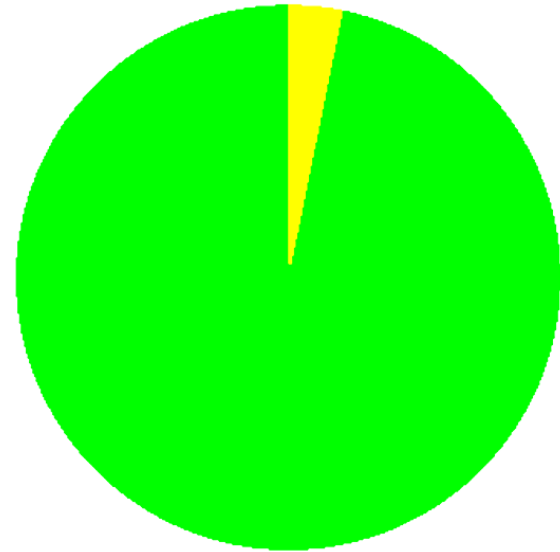
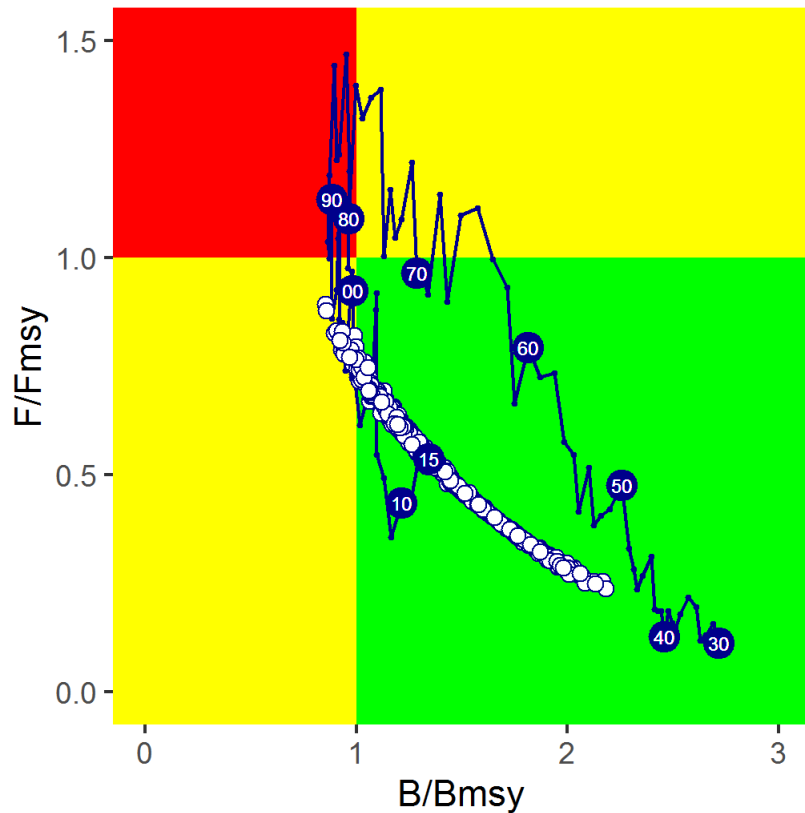
ALB -ATN: Task I by gear





# North Atlantic Albacore 2016 Assessment

## Stock Status (and historical trend)



NOT overfished:  $SSB_{2014}/SSB_{MSY}=1.36$  (1.05-1.78)

Nor overfishing:  $F_{2014}/F_{MSY}=0.54$  (0.35-0.72)

# Issues of Assessment (N. Albacore)

- Model diagnostics were concerning (strong retrospective pattern)
- CPUE series truncated and problematic for convergence
- The update used a surplus production model, which does not take into account issues of age structure/changes in selectivity and multiple indices in different areas (the previous assessment applied models that could take this into account).
- Due to these concerns, the SCRS did not develop a strategy matrix and advised that the TAC be kept as is (28K t).

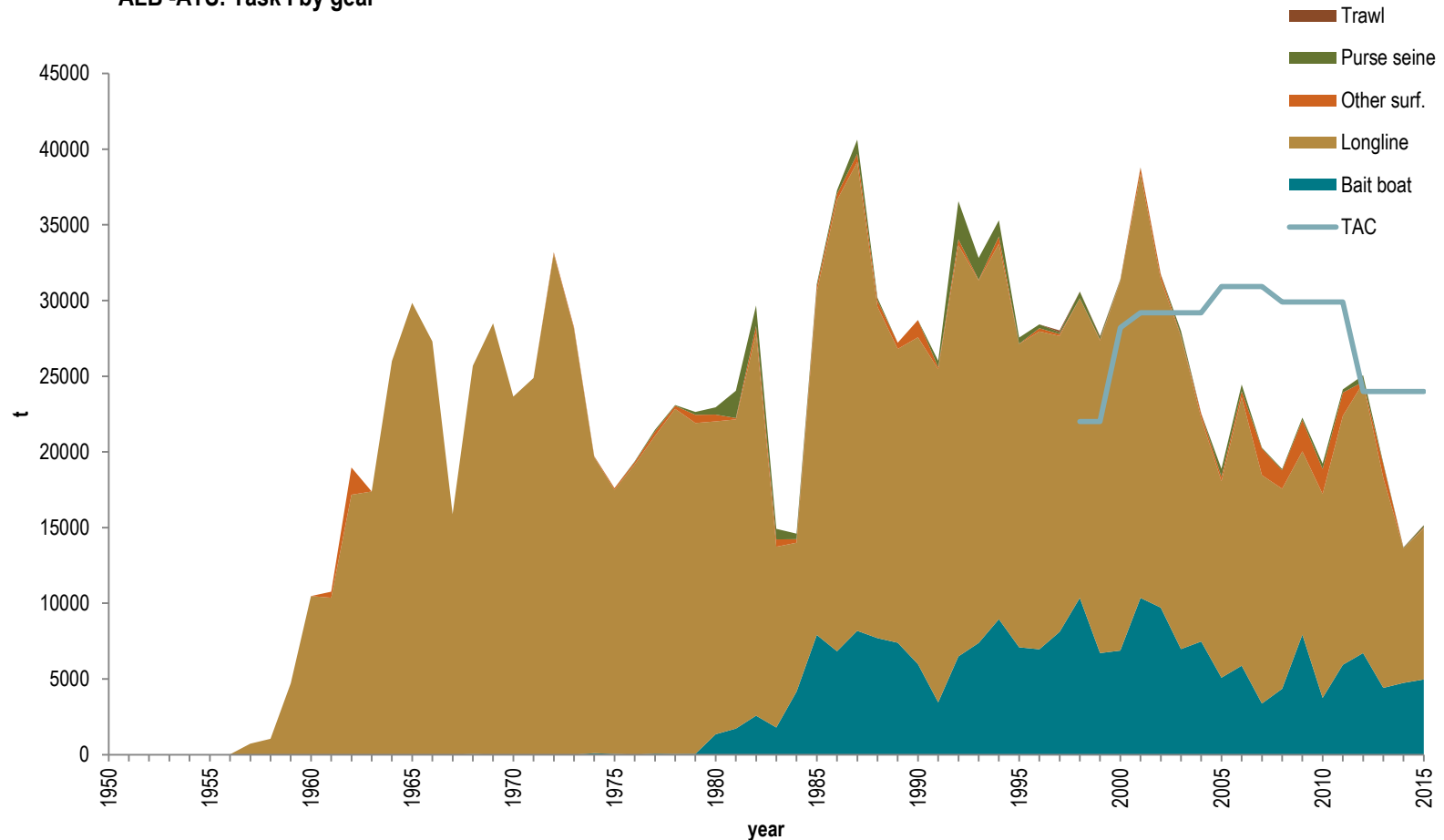




# South Atlantic Albacore

Catch (mt) by Gear:  
below TAC in recent years

ALB -ATS: Task I by gear

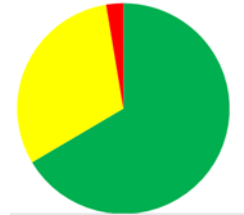
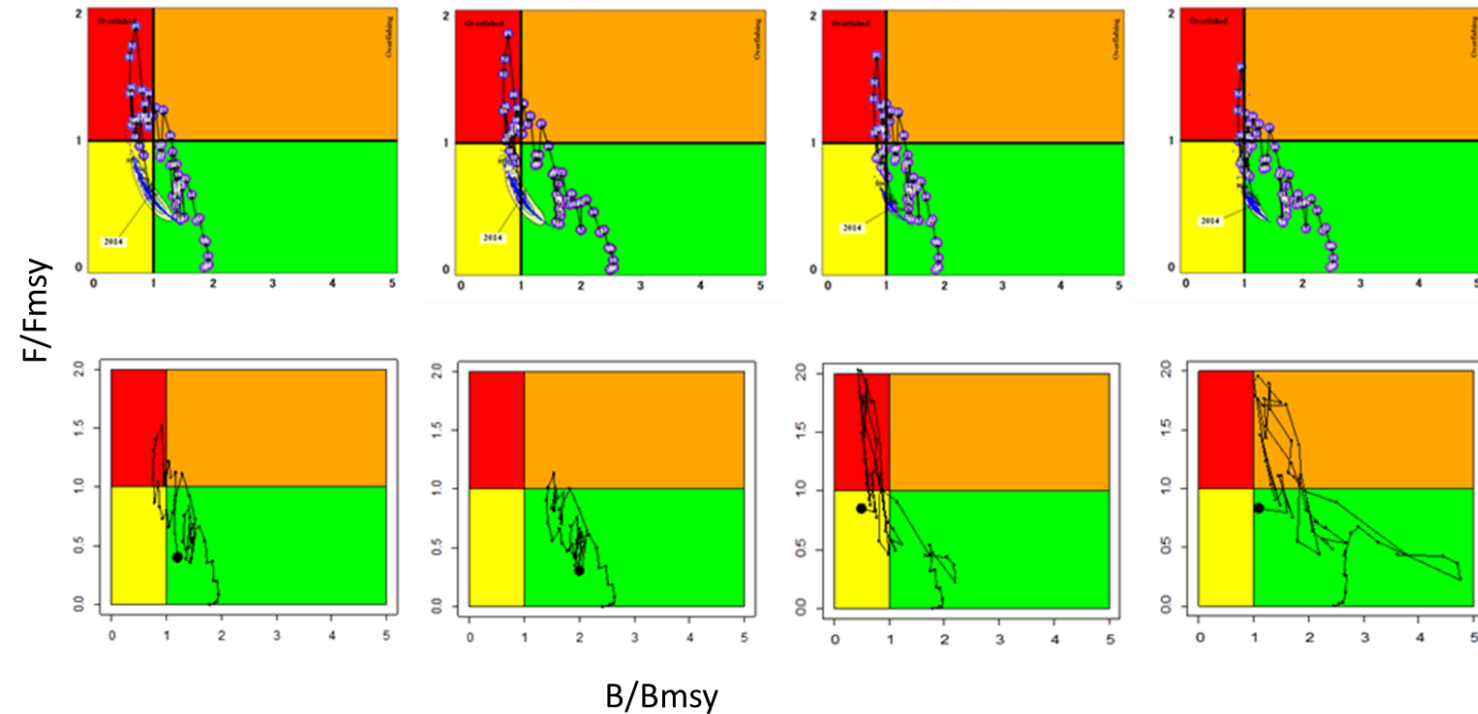




# South Atlantic Albacore

Stock Status (2013 Assessment):

Overfished and Undergoing Overfishing



NOT overfished:  $\text{SSB}_{2014} / \text{SSB}_{\text{MSY}} = 1.10$  (0.51-1.80)

NOR overfishing:  $F_{2014} / F_{\text{MSY}} = 0.54$  (0.31-0.87)



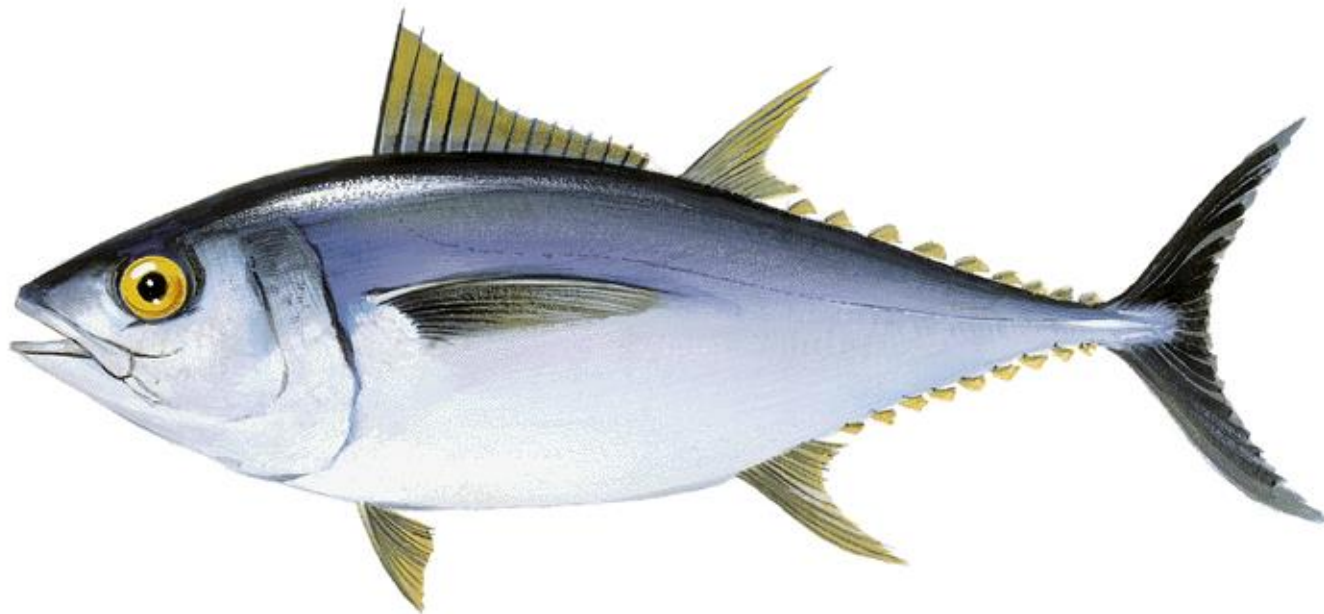
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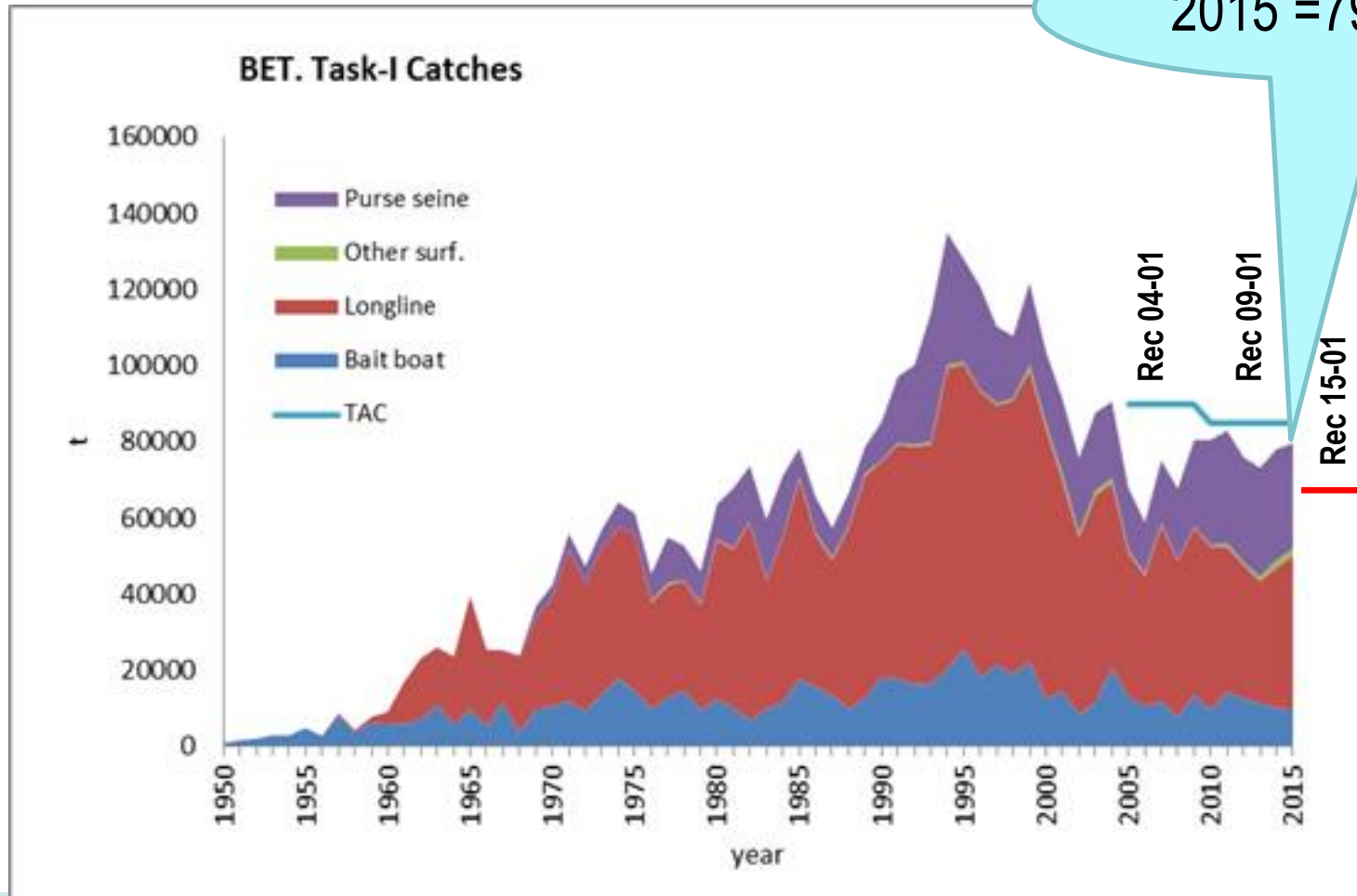
# Mediterranean Albacore Catches (mt) by Gear

ALB-MED : Task I by gear





**BIGEYE (*Thunnus obesus*)**







## KOBE PHASE PLOT

ASPIC

SS3

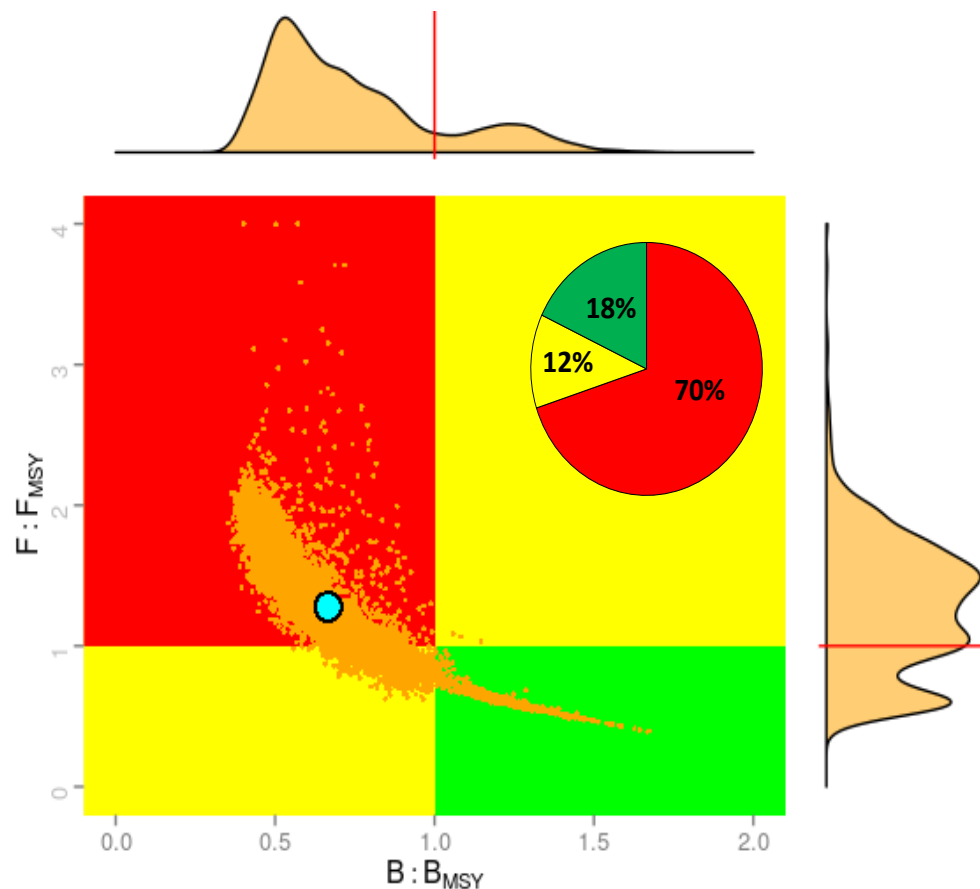
Catch 2015 ~ 79,577 t

Average catch 2011-2015 ~ 77,942 t

MSY = 78,824 t. (67,725 – 85,009 t)

$B_{2014}/B_{MSY} \sim 0.67$  (0.48–1.20) - Overfished

$F_{2014}/F_{MSY} \sim 1.28$  (0.62–1.85) - Overfishing





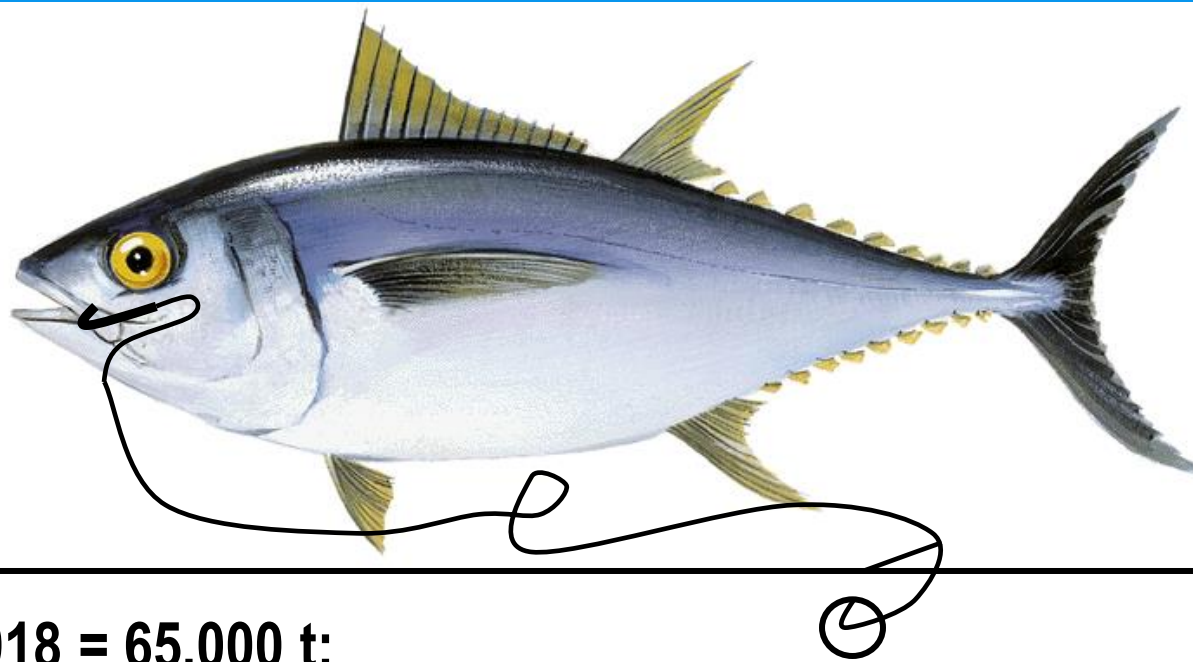
K2SM

ASPIC

SS3

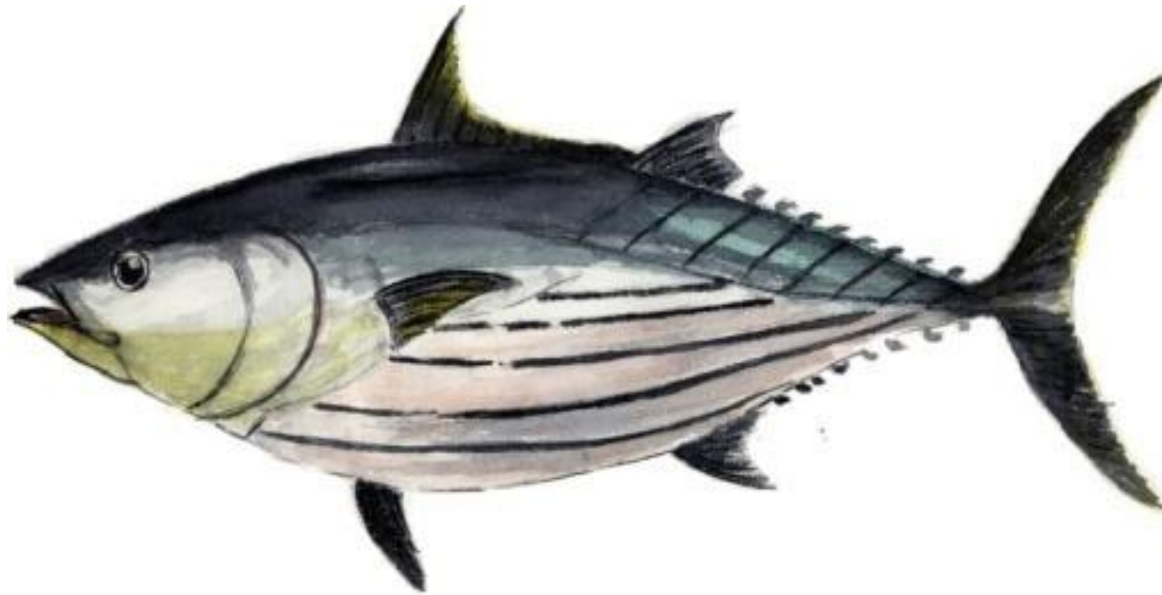
Probability of being in the green zone ( $B > B_{msy}$  and  $F < F_{msy}$ )

TAC (000 t)	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
0	17	17	21	33	57	74	85	92	95	97	98	98	99	99
40	17	17	18	22	31	40	51	60	67	73	78	81	84	87
45	17	17	18	21	29	37	45	53	60	66	71	76	79	81
50	17	17	18	20	27	34	41	48	53	59	64	69	72	76
55	17	17	18	20	25	31	37	42	47	51	56	60	64	68
60	17	17	17	19	23	28	33	37	40	44	48	52	55	58
65	17	17	17	18	22	26	30	33	36	39	42	44	46	49
70	17	17	17	18	21	24	26	30	31	34	36	38	39	41
75	17	17	17	18	19	22	24	26	27	29	31	32	33	35
80	17	16	16	16	18	19	21	22	23	25	26	27	28	29



- ✓ TAC 2016-2018 = 65,000 t;
- ✓ Capacity limit to be restricted to the 2005 BET n° vessels;
- ✓ Time/area closure to FAD fishing from 1<sup>st</sup> January to 28<sup>th</sup> February 4°S, 5°N, 20°W, African coast;
- ✓ Limitations of FAD: 500 FADs active at any time by vessel;
- ✓ Non-entangling FADs.

# SKIPJACK



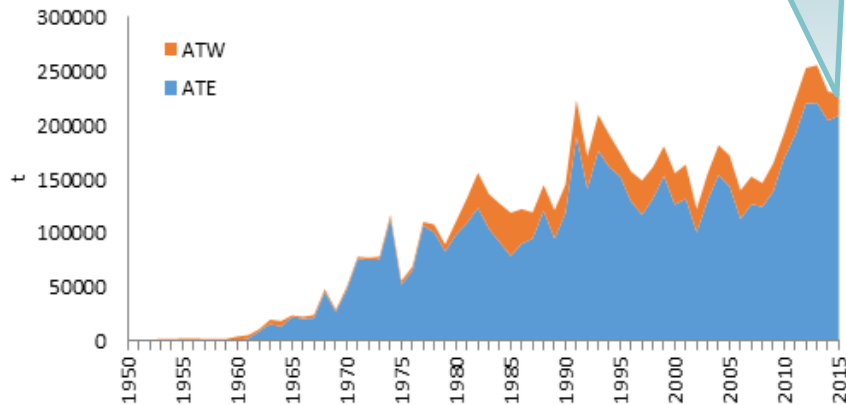
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# Fisheries indicators

## Catches – Tasks I and II

229,212t

SKJ Task-I cumulative catches by Stock

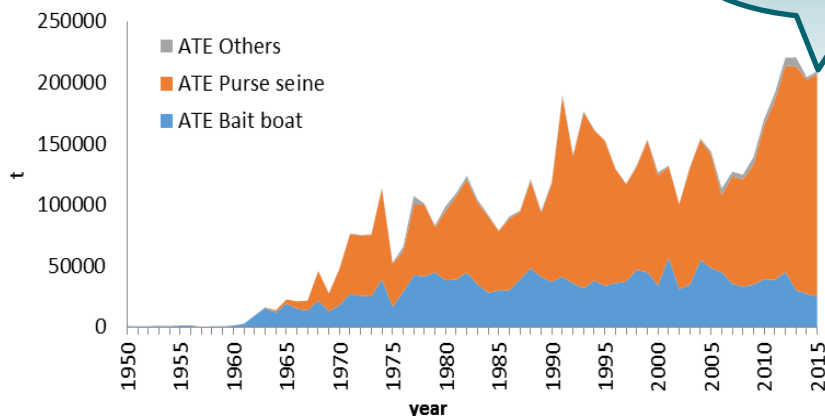


- Decline in catch since the early 1990s (due to a decrease in nominal fishing effort and/or to a moratorium effect), followed by a new strong increase in the recent years (2013 historic record)

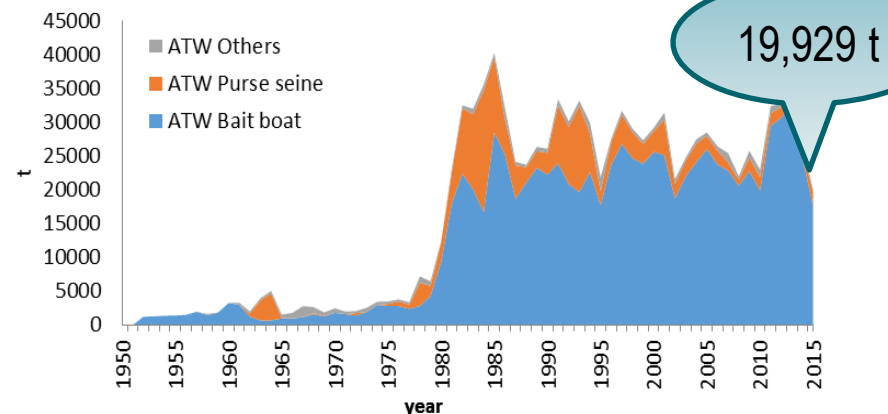
- Catchability of SKJ increased in the early 1990s due to FADs fishing

209,283 t

SKJ Task-I cumulative catches (AT.East)

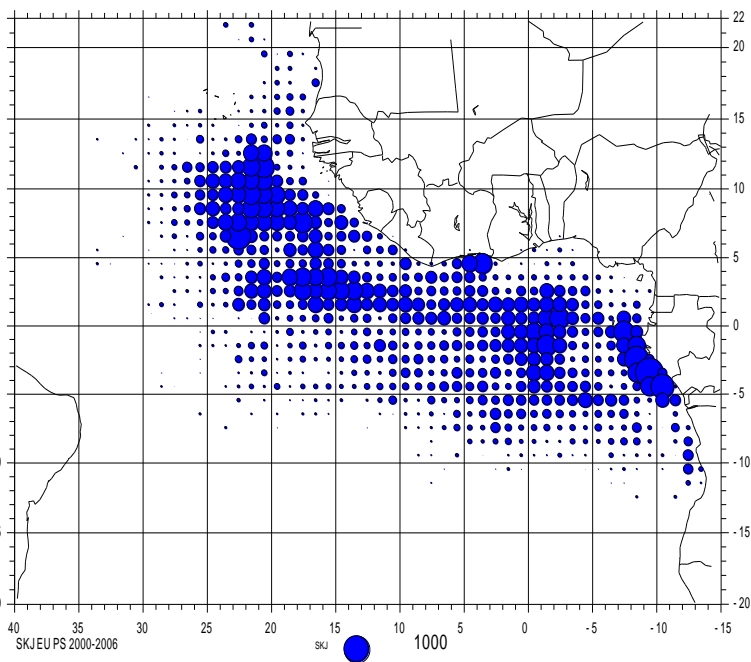


SKJ Task-I cumulative catches (AT.West)



# Fisheries indicators

## SKJ catches during the period 1970-2014



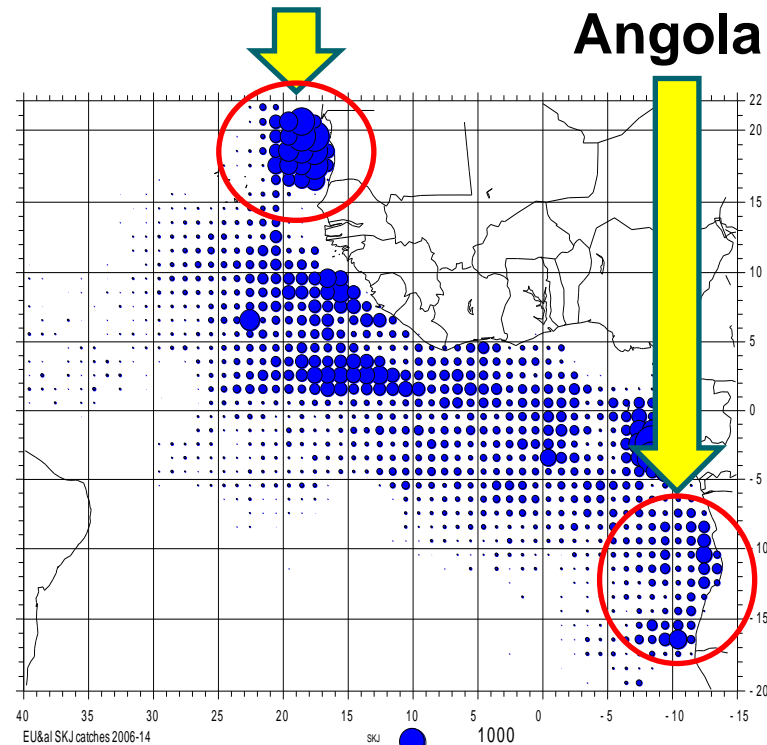
2000-2006

EU PS fleet



Mauritania

Angola



2007-2014



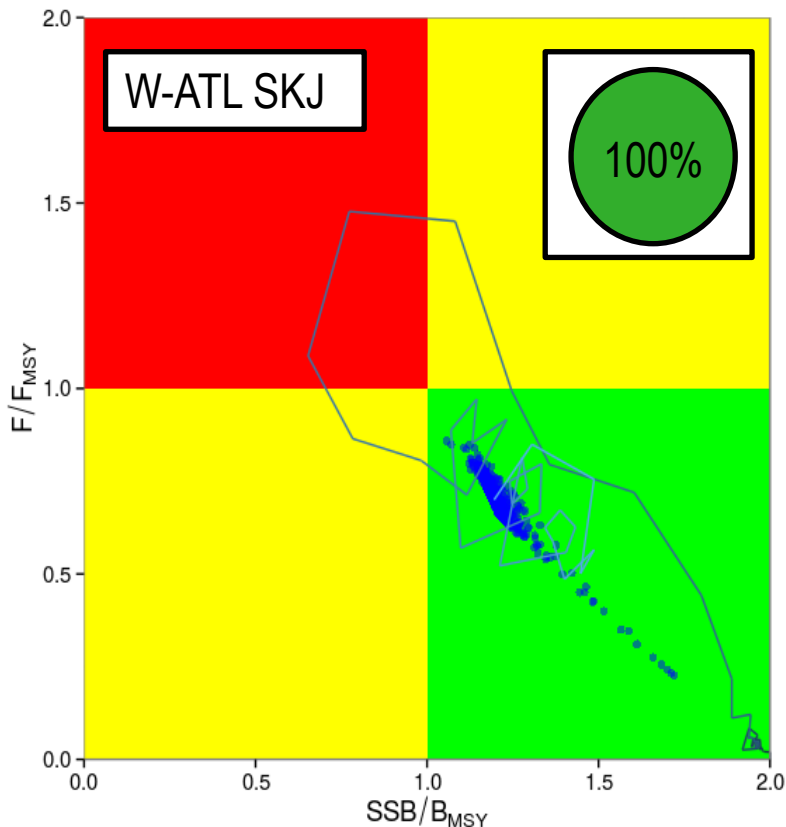
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# State of the stock

## State of the stock (2013)

Stock assessments for East and West Atlantic skipjack were conducted in 2014 on data through 2013. No quantitative estimates of Eastern SKJ stock status or MSY.



	East Atlantic	West Atlantic
Maximum Sustainable Yield (MSY)	Probably higher than previous estimates (143,000-170,000)	Around 30,000-32,000 t
Current yield (2015)	209,283 t	19,929 t
Current Replacement Yield	Unknown	Somewhat below 32,000 t
Relative Biomass (B <sub>2013</sub> /B <sub>MSY</sub> )	Likely >1	Probably close to 1.3
Mortality due to fishing (F <sub>2013</sub> /F <sub>MSY</sub> )	Likely <1	Probably close to 0.7
Management measures in force	Rec. 15-01	None



# Billfish



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# 2016 SAILFISH STOCK ASSESSMENT

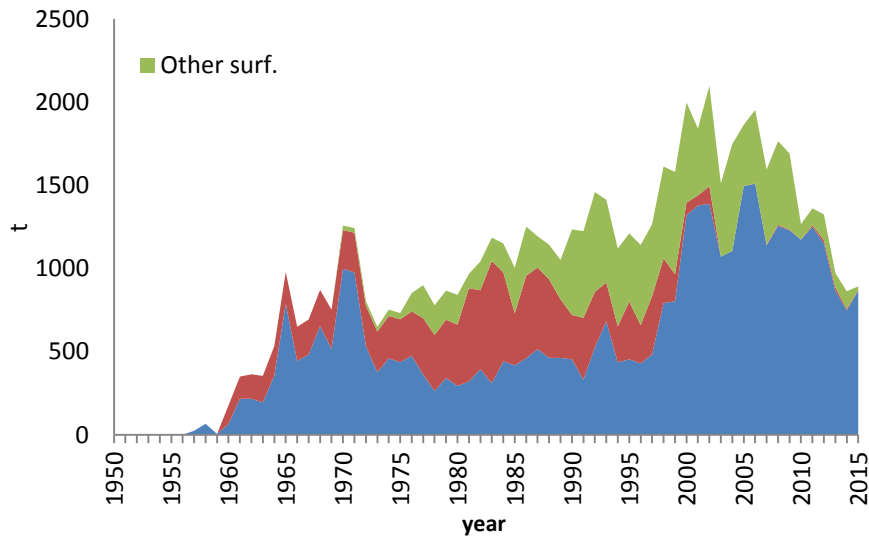


# ESTIMATED CATCHES OF Sailfish (*Istiophorus albicans*) by gear (1956-2015)

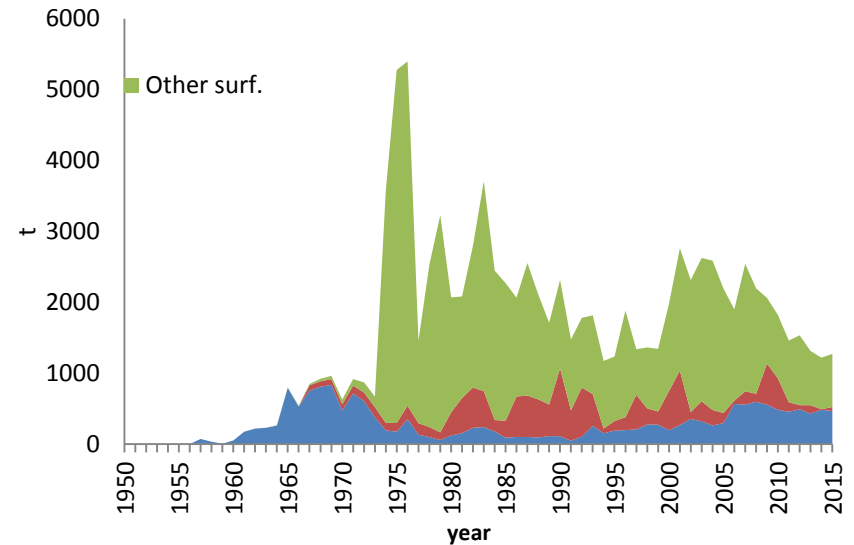


MSY Estimate (east): 1,635 – 2,157 t  
Current Catch Level (2015): 1,271 t  
MSY Estimate (west): 1,438 – 1,636 t  
Current Catch Level (2015): 892 t

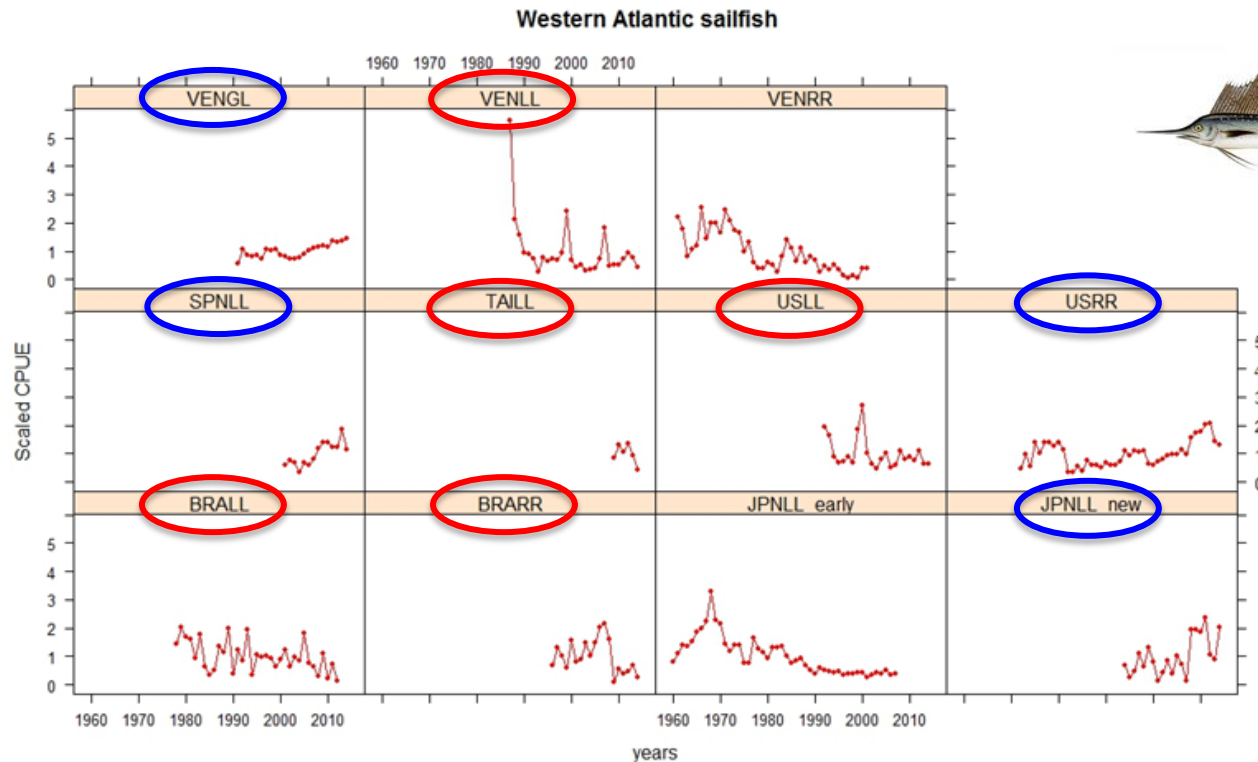
SAI Task I cumulative catches (At. West)



SAI Task I cumulative catches (At. East)



# Sailfish (west) Showed Conflicting Catch Rates



CPUE w/ increasing trends:

- a) JPNLL new
- b) USRR
- c) VENGL
- d) SPNLL

CPUE w/ decreasing trends:

- a) BRARR
- b) BRALL
- c) USLL
- d) VENLL
- e) TAILL

# Sailfish (West) Stock Status

Last Assessment: 2016

Reference Year: 2014

$SSB_{2010}/SSB_{MSY}$  (M1): 1.90 (1.07 – 2.66)

$SSB_{2010}/SSB_{MSY}$  (M2): 1.24 (0.64 – 1.76)

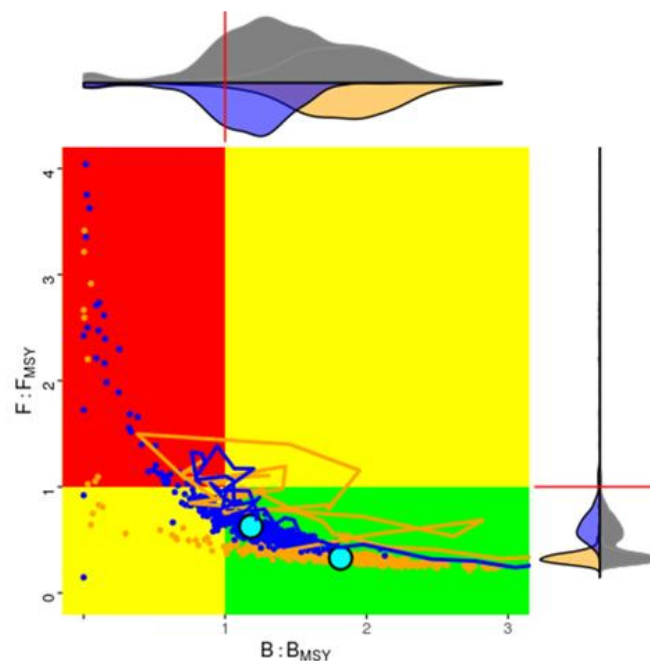
$F/F_{MSY}$  (M1): 0.35 (0.26 – 6.10)

$F/F_{MSY}$  (M2): 0.69 (0.44 – 5.13)

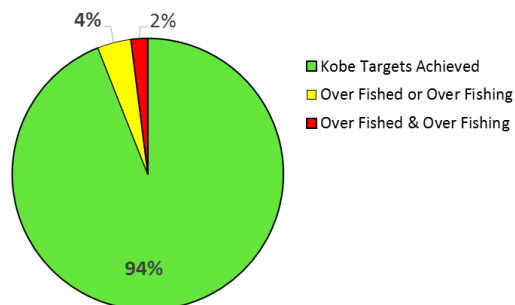
**Overfished:** Not Likely

**Overfishing:** Not Likely

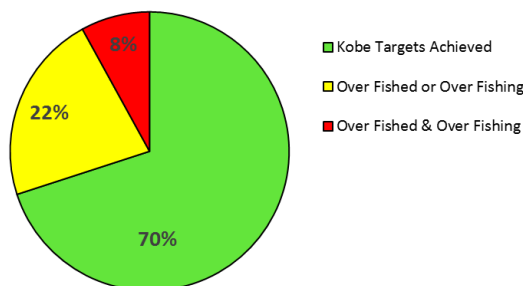
Next Assessment: 2018



Model 1.1

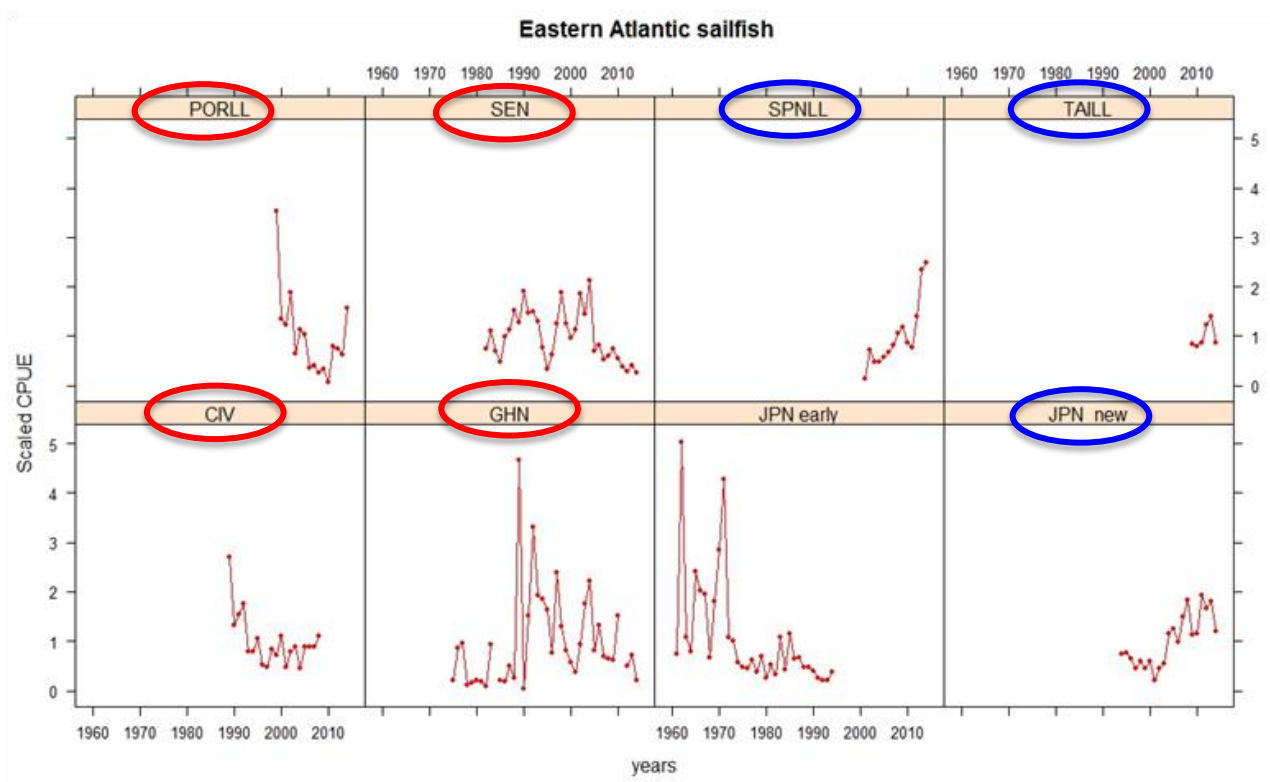


Model 2.1





## Sailfish (east) Showed Conflicting Catch Rates



CPUE w/ increasing trends:

- a) JPNLL new
- b) TAILL
- c) SPNLL

CPUE w/ decreasing trends:

- a) CIV
- b) GHN\*
- c) PORLL
- d) SEN



# Sailfish (East) Stock Status

Last Assessment: 2016

Reference Year: 2014

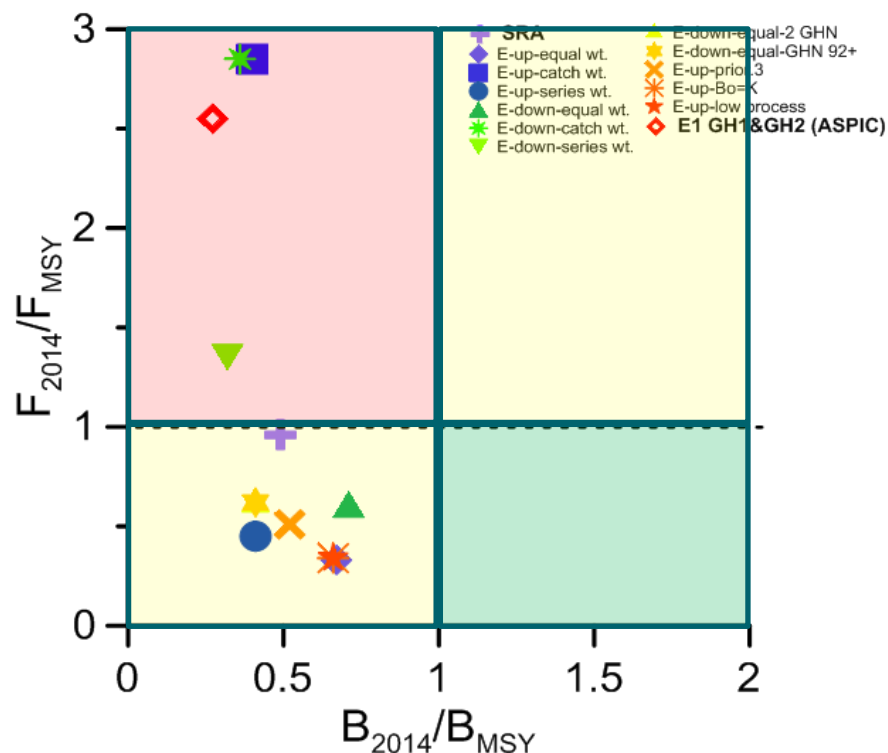
$B_{2014}/B_{MSY}$ : 0.22 – 0.70

$F/F_{MSY}$ : 0.33 – 2.85

**Overfished:** Yes

**Overfishing:** Possibly

Next Assessment: Unknown



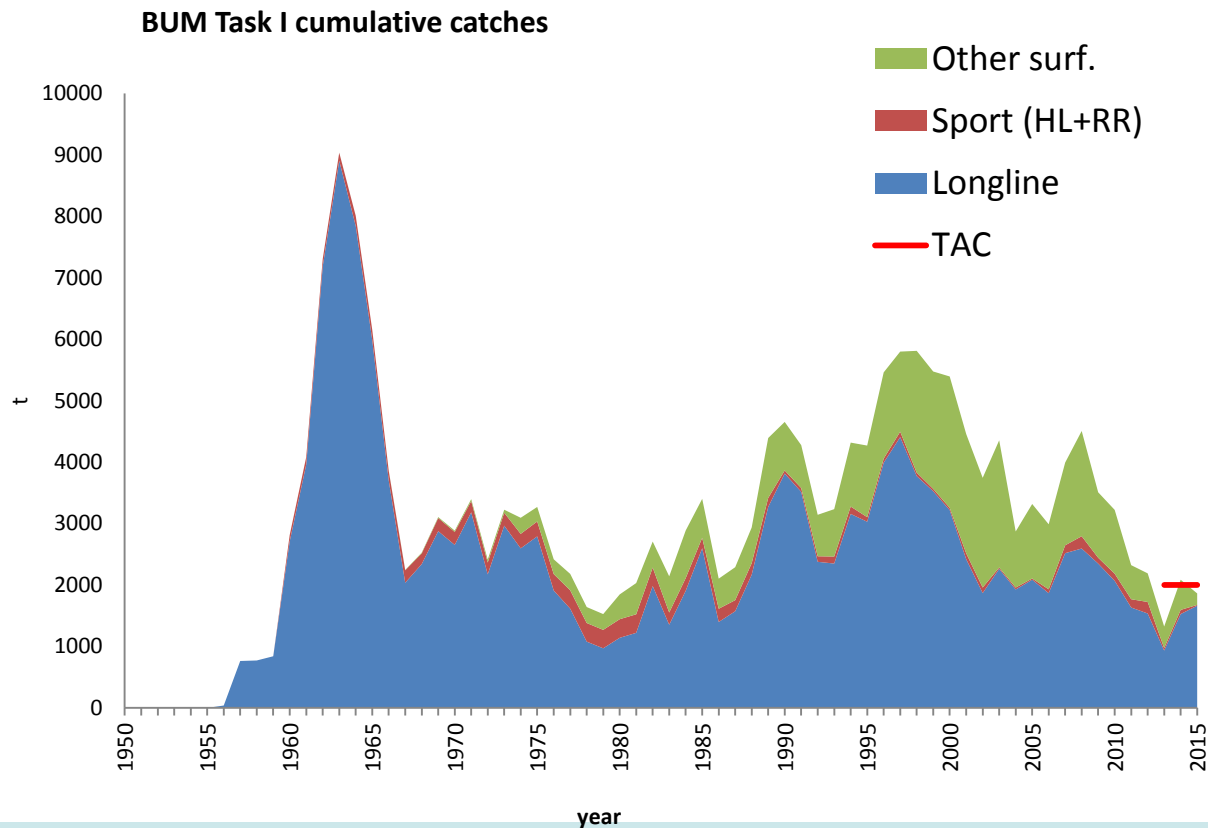
# Blue Marlin



# ESTIMATED CATCHES OF Blue Marlin (*Makaira nigricans*) by gear (1956-2015)

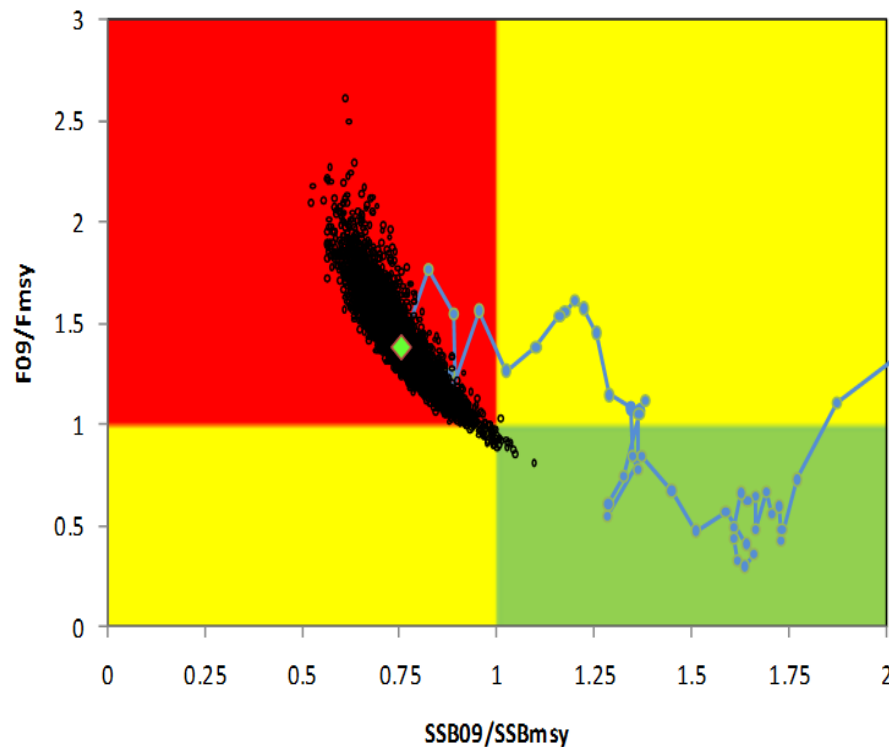


MSY Estimate: 2,837 t (2,343 – 3,331 t)  
Current Catch Level (2015): 1,864 t



# Blue Marlin Stock Status

Last Assessment: 2010  
Reference Year: 2009  
 $SSB_{2010}/SSB_{MSY}$ : 0.67 (0.53 – 0.81)  
 $F/F_{MSY}$ : 0.99 (0.75 – 1.27)  
**Overfished: Yes**  
**Overfishing: Yes**  
Next Assessment: 2018



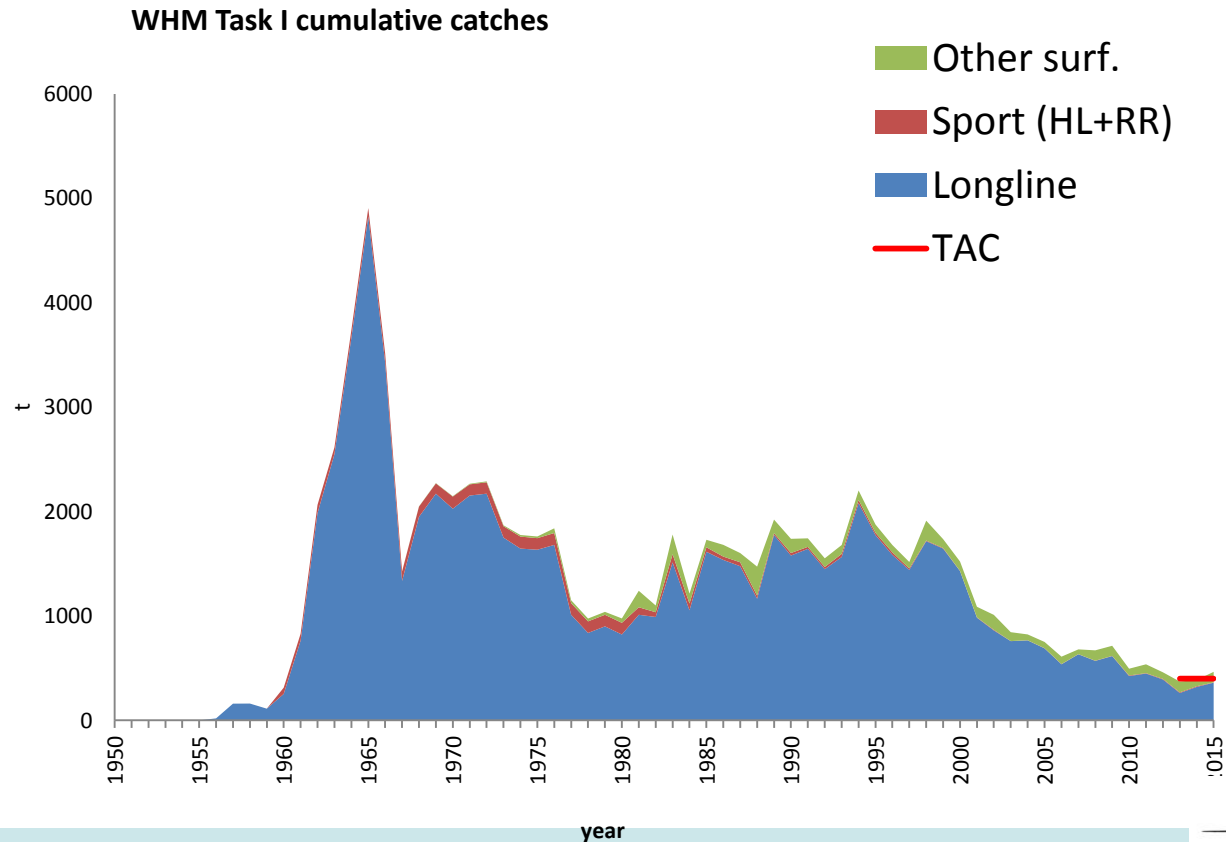
# White Marlin



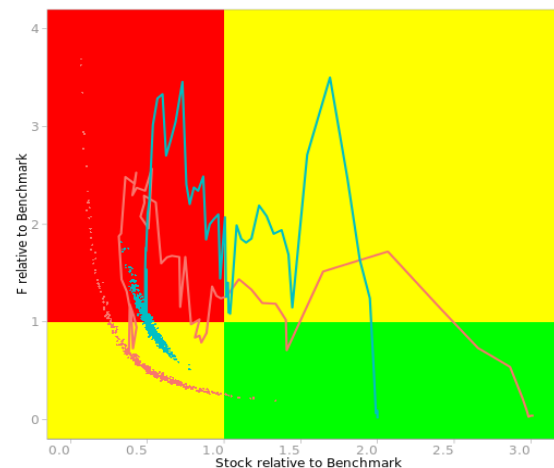
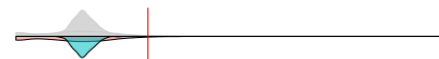


# ESTIMATED CATCHES OF White Marlin (*Tetrapturus albidus*) by gear (1956-2015)

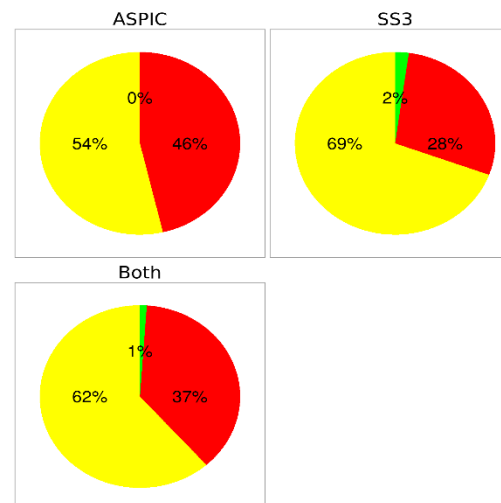
MSY Estimate: 2,837 t (2,343 – 3,331 t)  
Current Catch Level (2015): 1,864 t



# White Marlin Stock Status

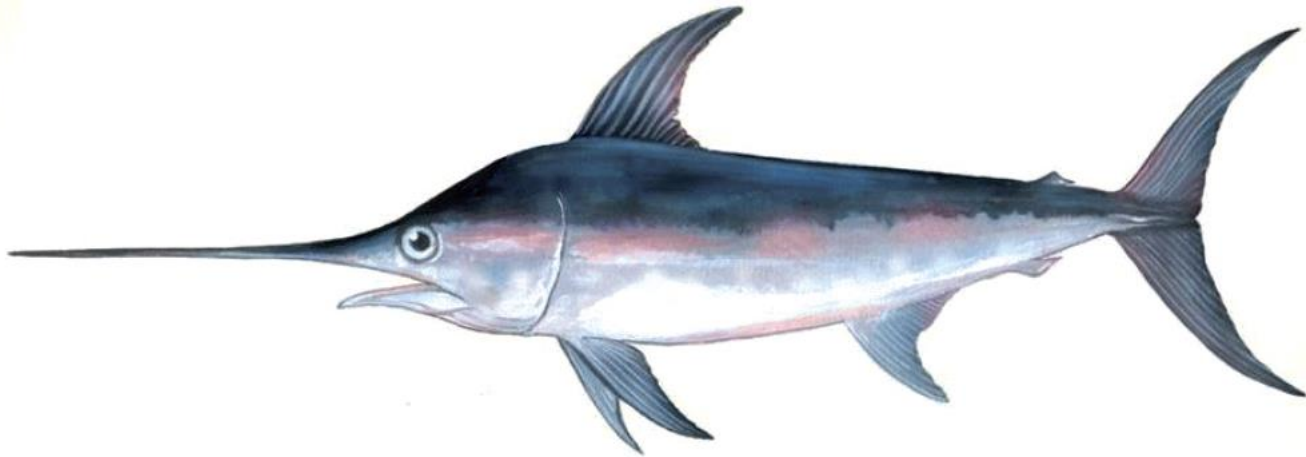


Last Assessment: 2011  
Reference Year: 2010  
B/B<sub>MSY</sub> (ASPIC): 0.50 (0.42 – 0.60)  
SSB<sub>2010</sub>/SSB<sub>MSY</sub> (SS): 0.32 (0.23 – 0.41)  
F/F<sub>MSY</sub> (ASPIC): 0.99 (0.75 – 1.27)  
(SS): 0.72 (0.51 – 0.93)  
**Overfished: Yes**  
**Overfishing: Not Likely**  
Next Assessment: 2018





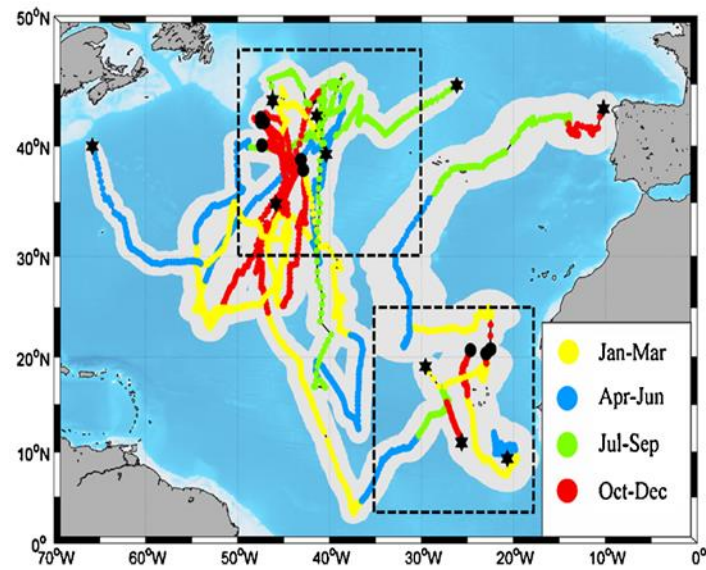
# Swordfish



*swordfish drawing by Wendy Williams*

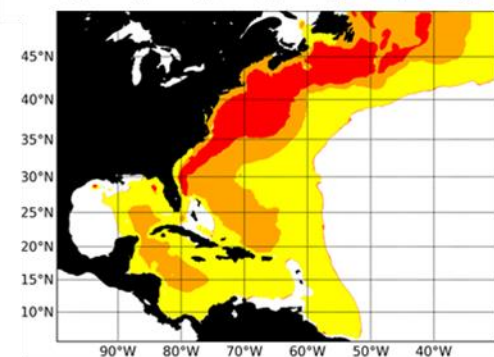
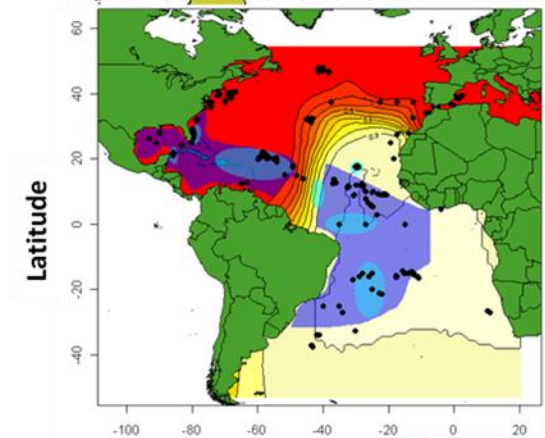
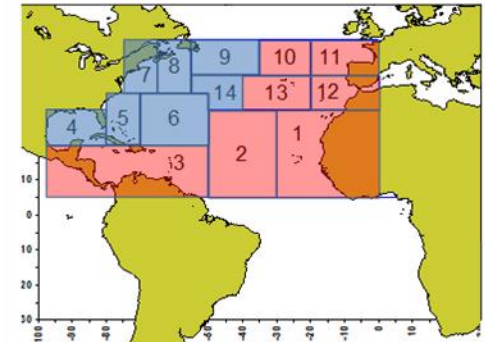
# Revisions to stock structure may occur: new genetics/tagging/CPUE

- new information on stock structure based on genetics and tagging information.
- Uncertainties in boundaries between NE-Mediterranean, North and South, and possibly between NW-NE.



CPUE index trends (last SWO-Atl assessment), population genetics (Smith et al., 2015) and distribution in NW Atlantic (Neilson et al., 2014). Discussed in Schirripa et al. (*in press*).

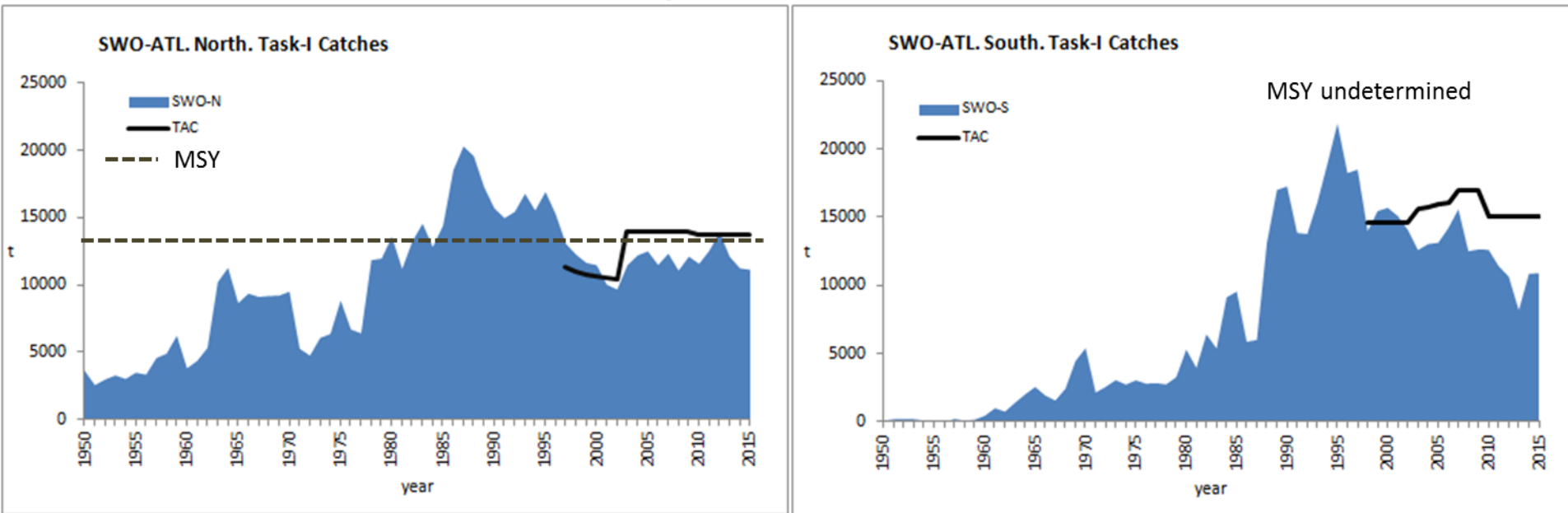
Satellite tagging of SWO in north Atlantic showing seasonal north/south movements (Abascal et al., 2015)



Longitude

# Catches – North and South Atlantic

- ❑ **North** – Decrease: 11,108 t in 2015, down from 11,206 t in 2014; 2015 TAC: 13,700
- ❑ **South** – Increase: 10,937 t in 2015, up from 10,885 t in 2014; 2015 TAC: 15,000
- ❑ Since 2010 catches in N are higher than in S



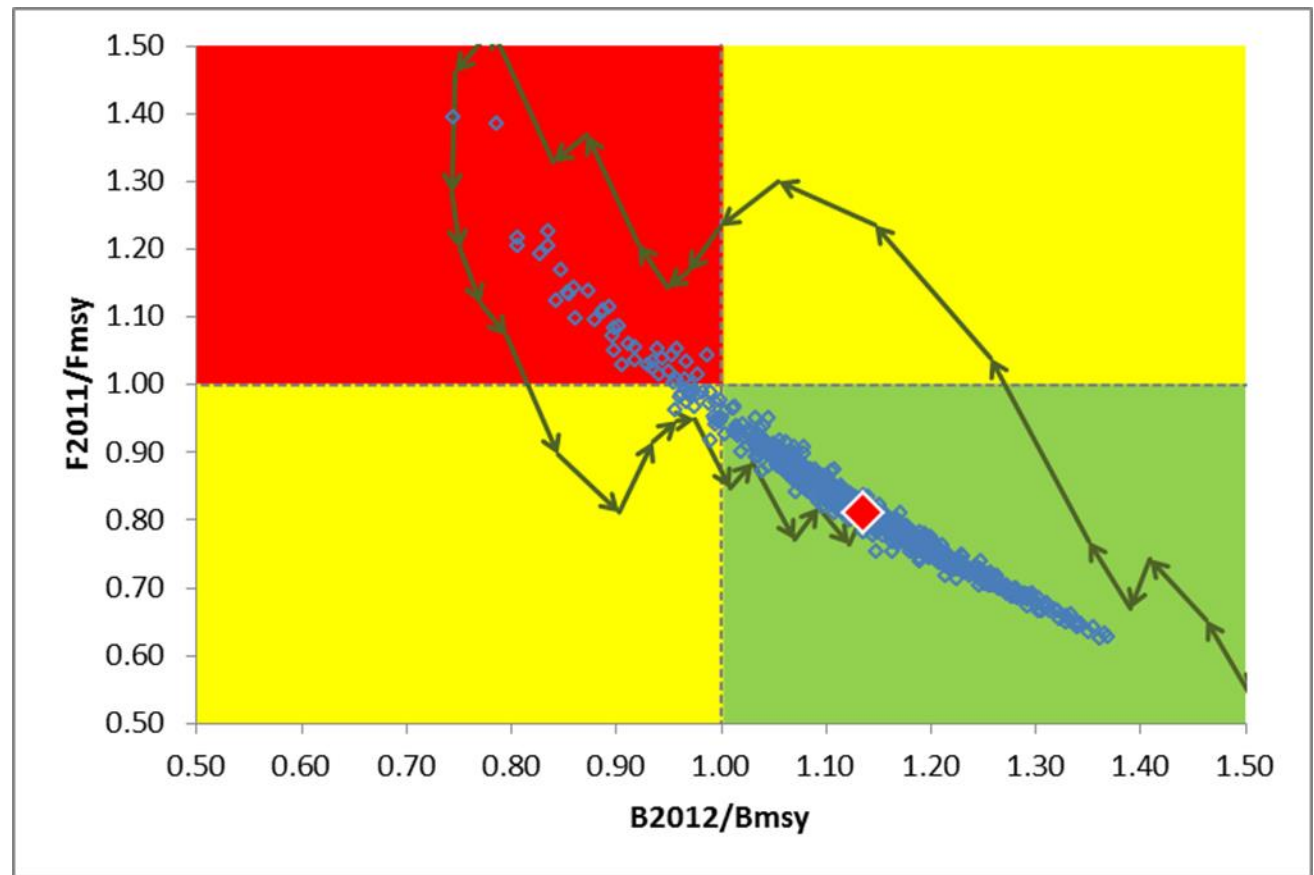
Total reported catch (Task I) and TACs for the North (left) and South (right) Atlantic swordfish stocks (1950-2015)

# Stock status (ASPIC), North

Overfished: NO  
Overfishing: NO

$B_{2011}/B_{MSY} = 1.14$  (1.05-1.24)

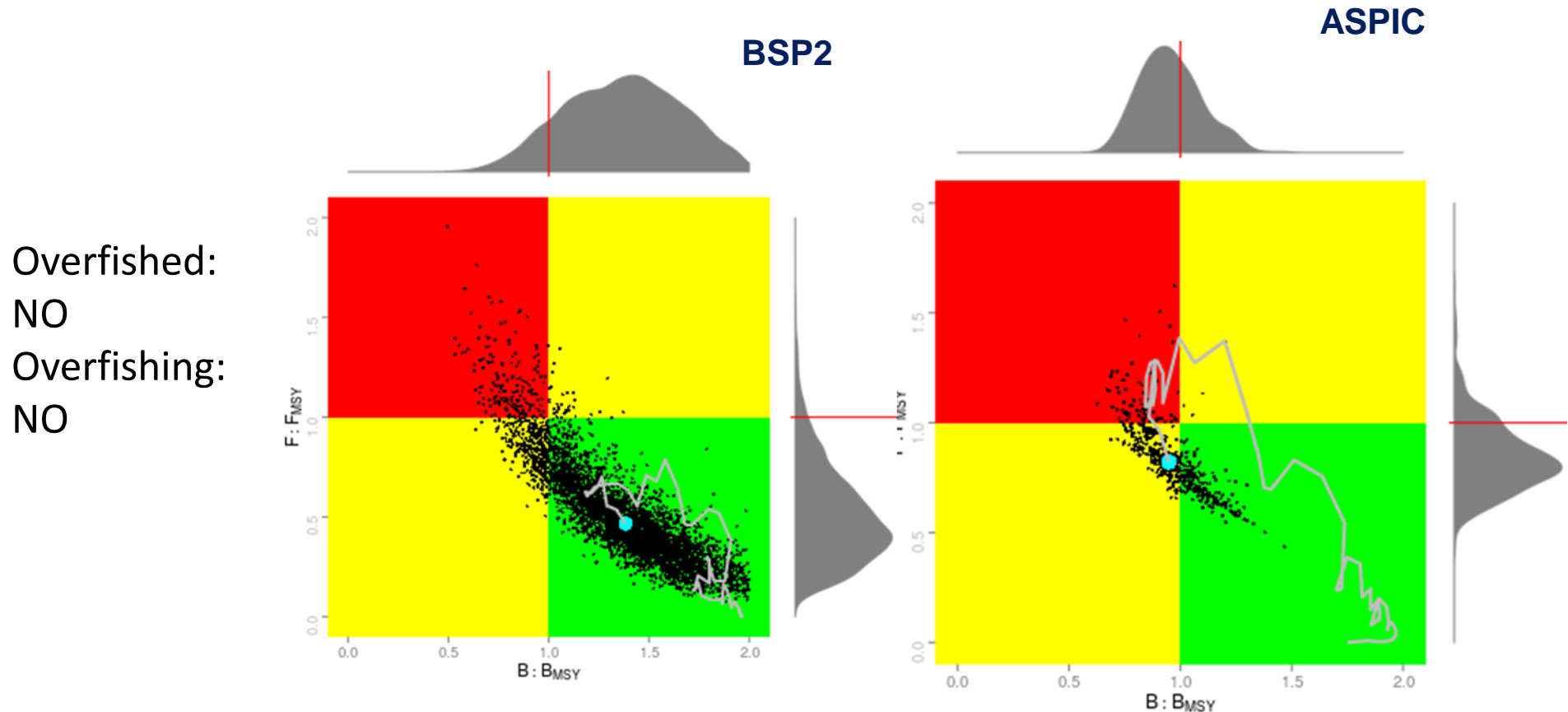
$F_{2011}/F_{MSY} = 0.82$  (0.73-0.91)



- Stock status in 2011 was similar to status in 2009
- $> 90\%$  probability stock was  $\geq B_{MSY}$ ; rebuilding objective [99-2] achieved.



# Stock status (BSP2 and ASPIC), South

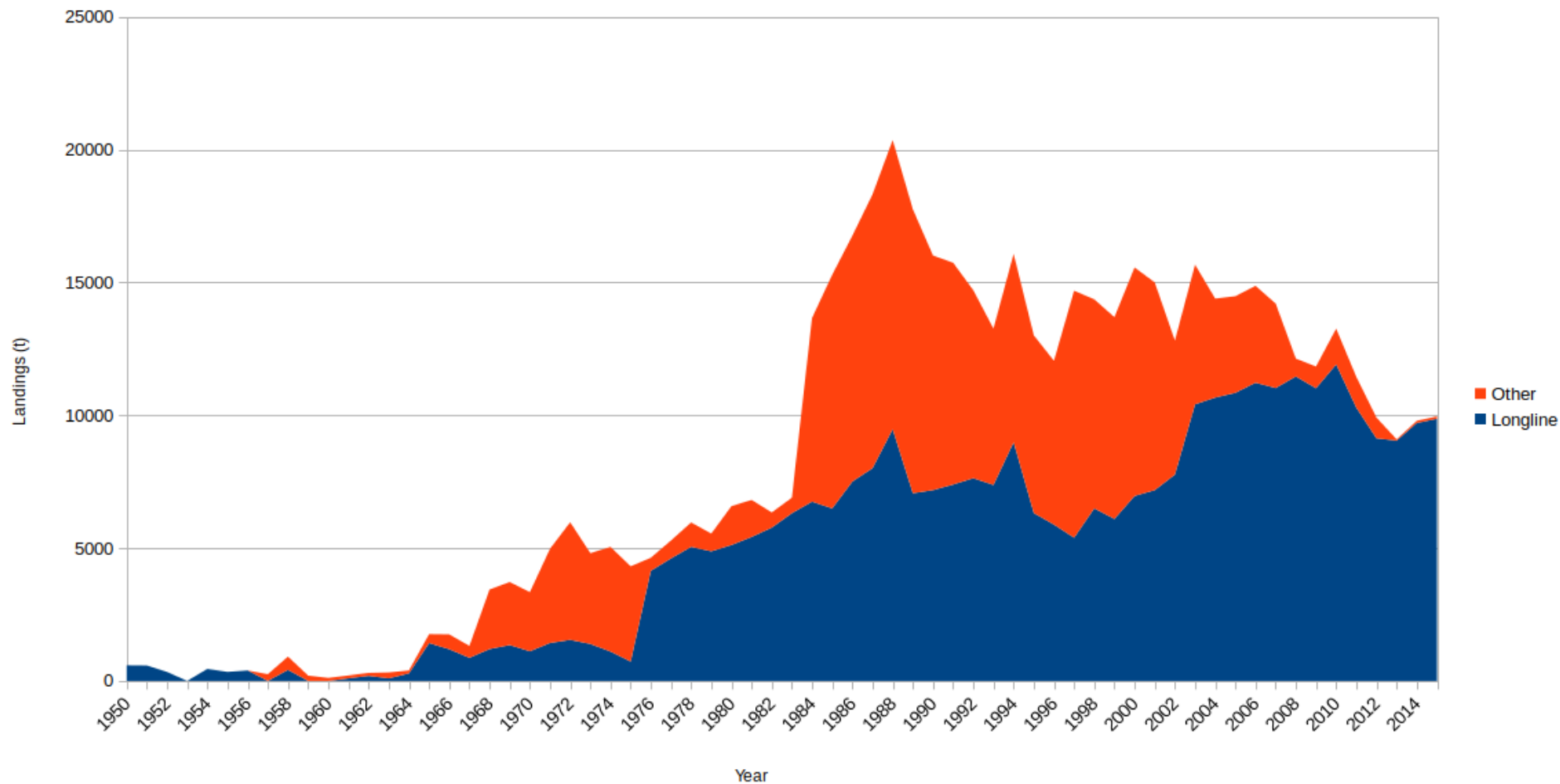


- Stock status based on a **combination of model output and ancillary information**: total removals (1950-2011) for South have been lower than in North; mean SWO weight is larger in South.
- Assuming similar production dynamics, both indicators suggest a lower exploitation rate for South, and hence Committee believes that stock is not overfished

# 2016 MEDITERRANEAN SWORDFISH STOCK ASSESSMENT

## Med Swordfish catch

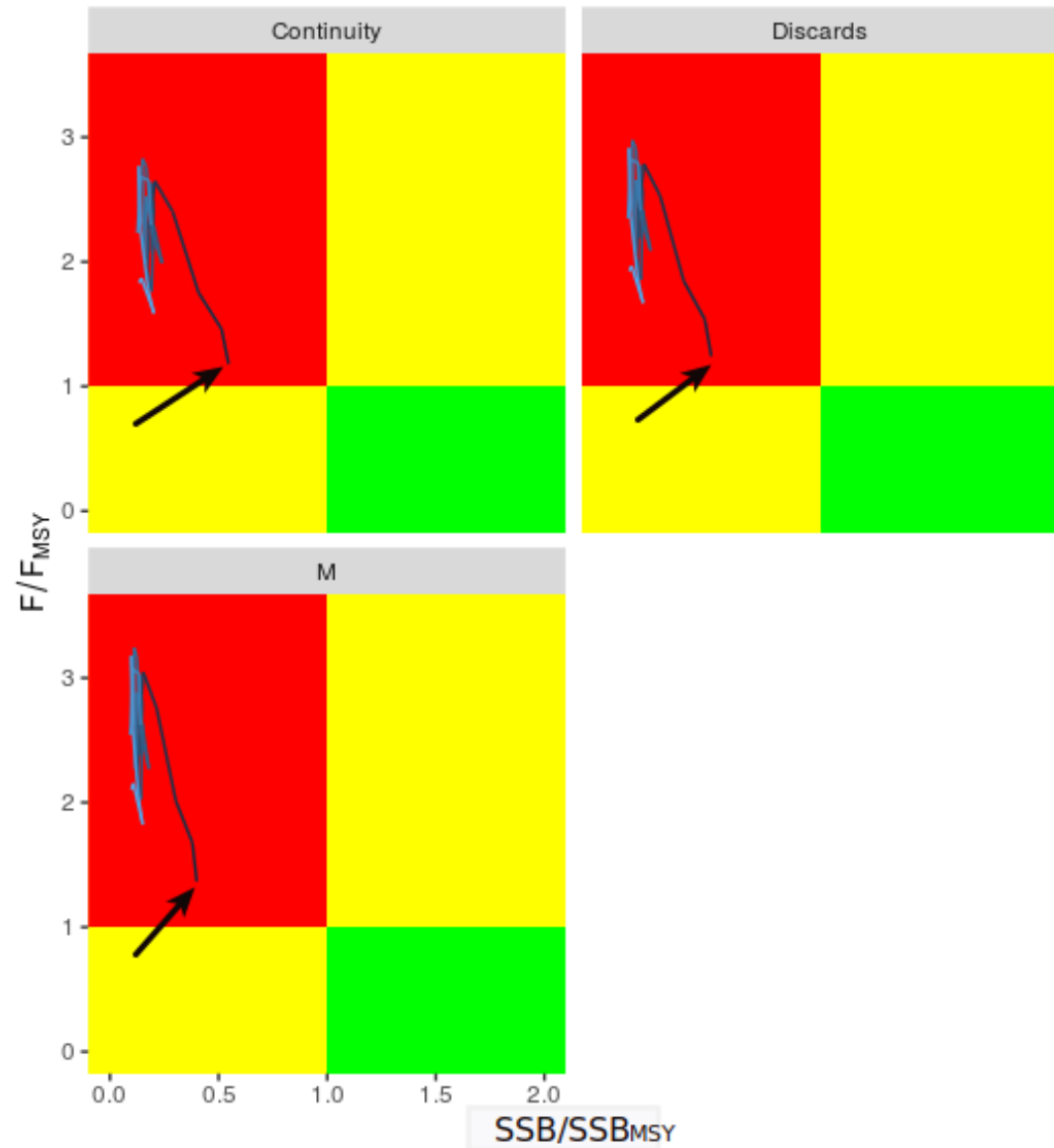
No TAC, 2015 catch= 10,068 MSY 19,700



# Med Swordfish stock status

$$F_{2015}/F_{MSY} = 1.85$$
$$SSB_{2015} / SSB_{MSY} = 0.12$$

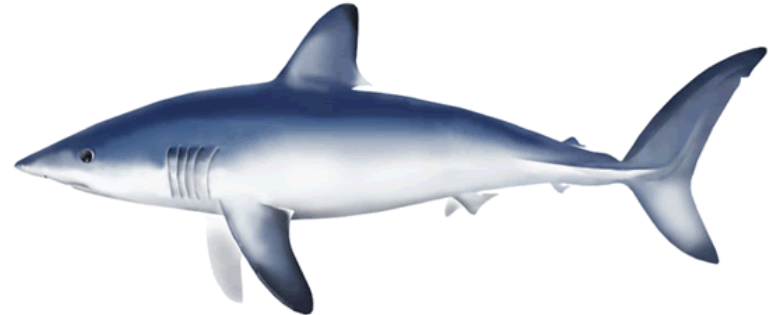
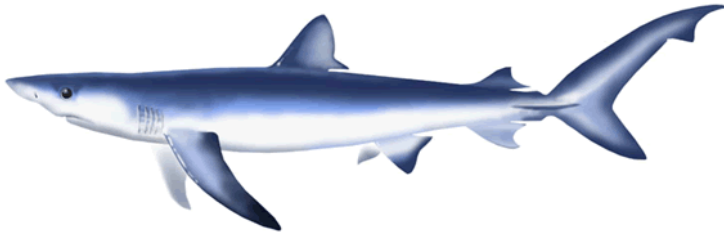
Overfished: Yes  
Overfishing: Yes



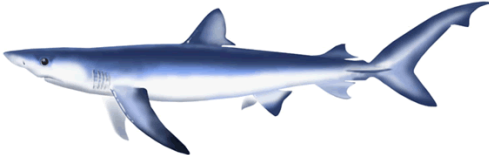
SSB/SSB<sub>MSY</sub> and F/F<sub>MSY</sub> from 3 XSA runs. (Continuity=constant natural mortality, assume discards 4 zero-age fish/t, M vary with age). Arrows indicate beginning of model time.



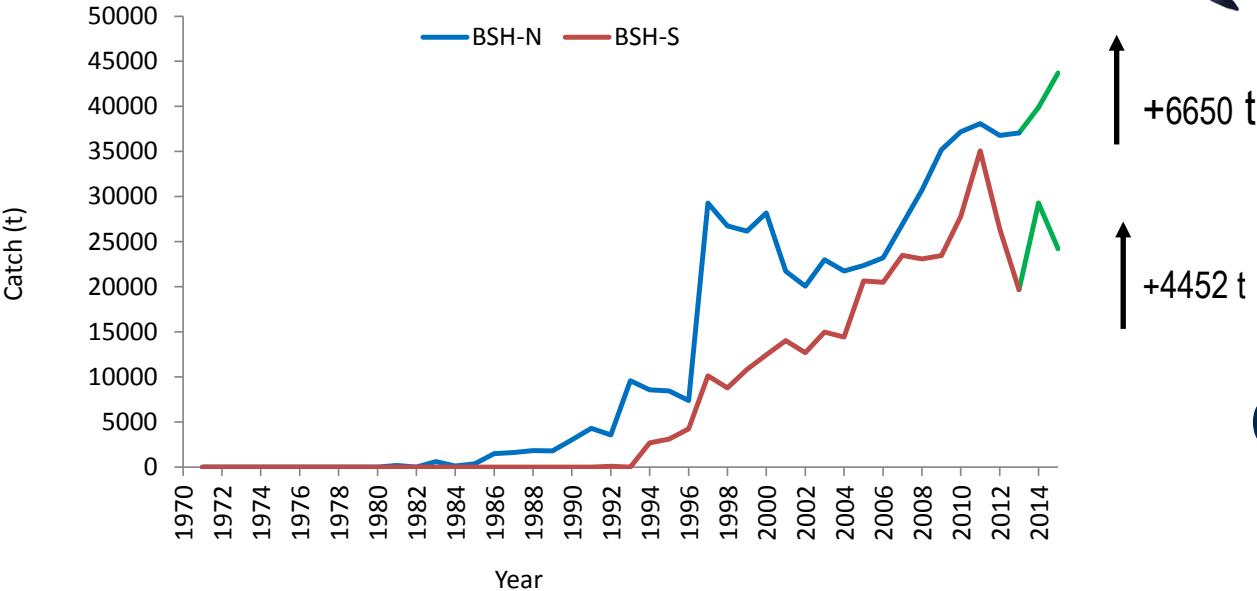
# Sharks



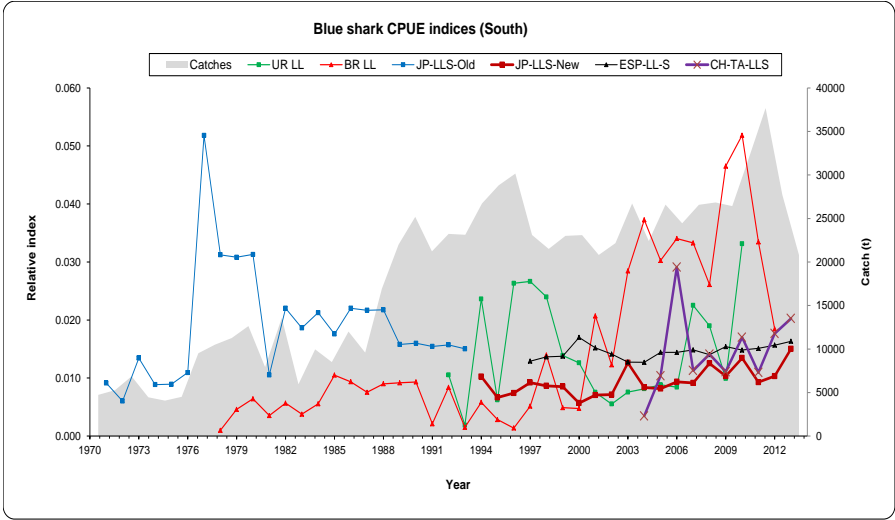
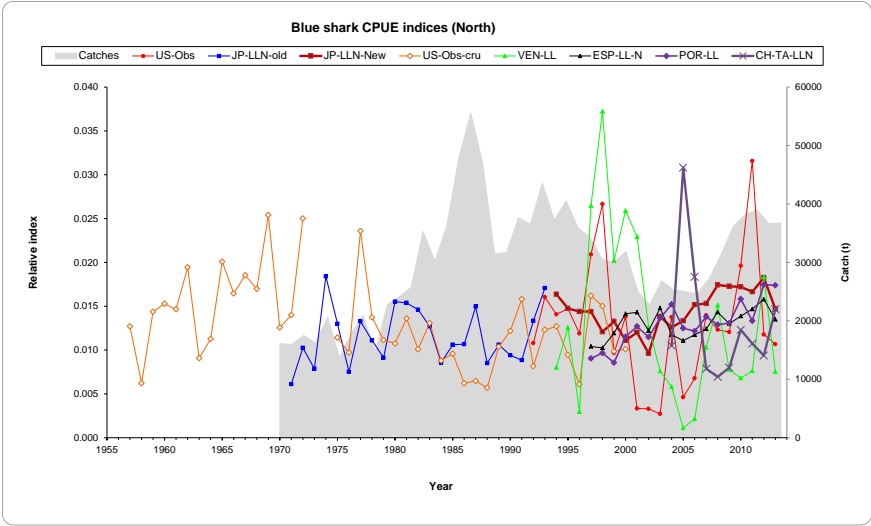
# Blue shark: catches and CPUE



2015  
assessment



Catches

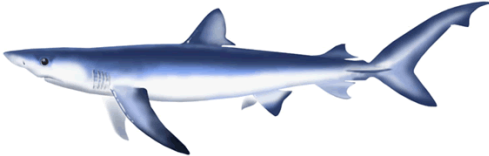


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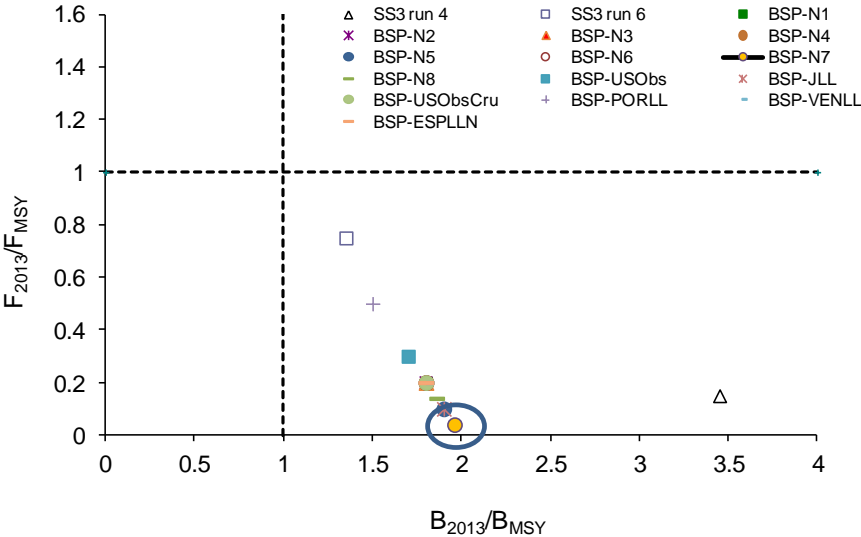
North Atlantic

South Atlantic

# Blue shark: stock status

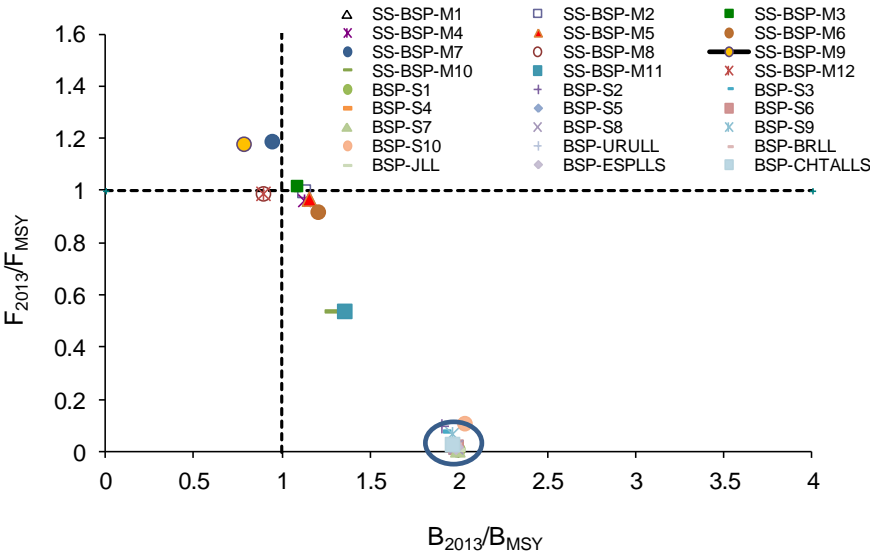


## North Atlantic



Overfished: Not likely  
Overfishing: Not likely

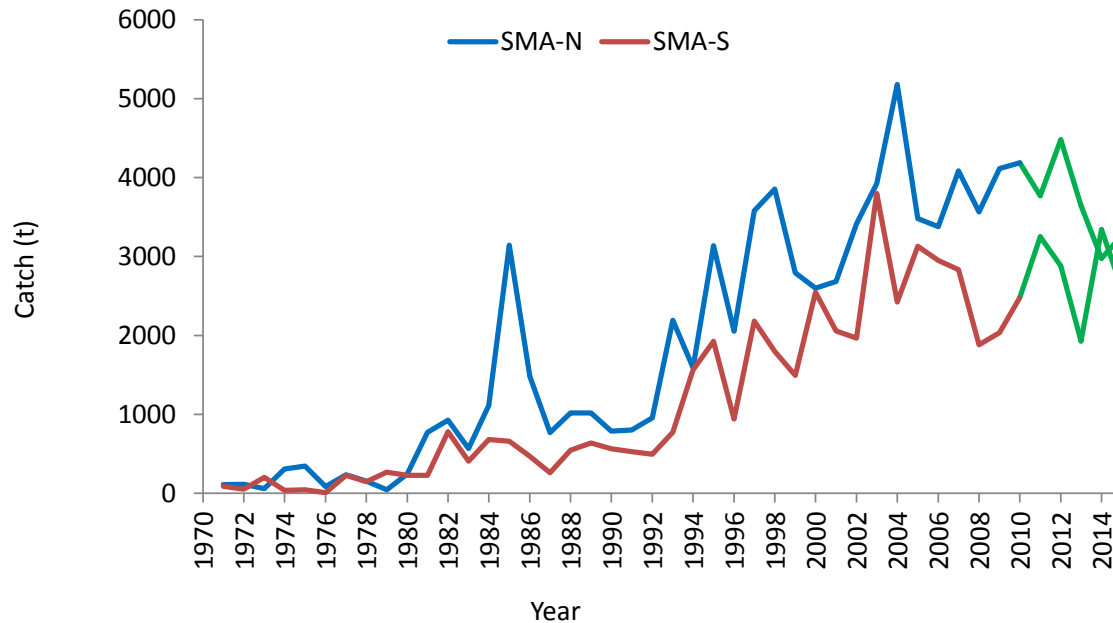
## South Atlantic



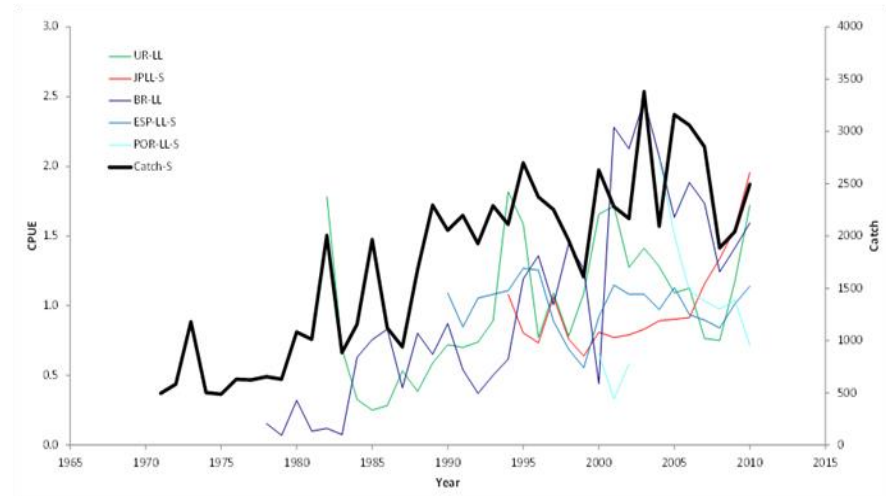
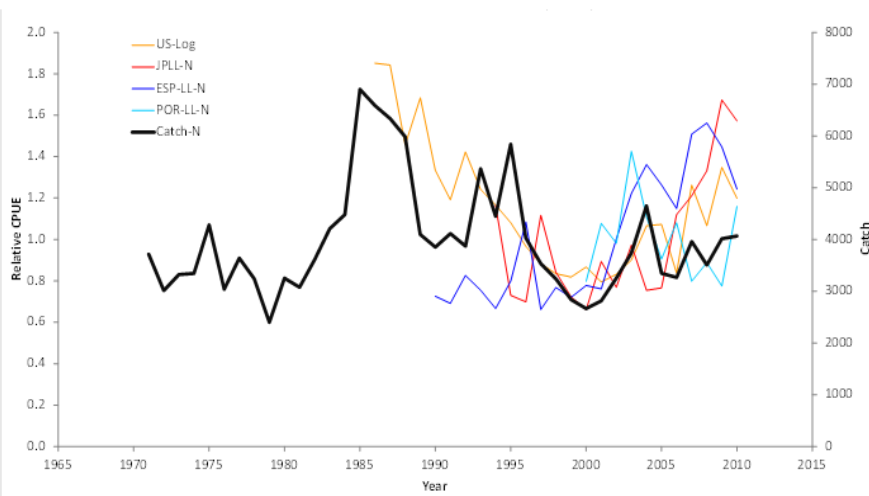
Overfished: Unknown  
Overfishing: Unknown

# Shortfin mako: catches and CPUE

2012  
assessment



Catches



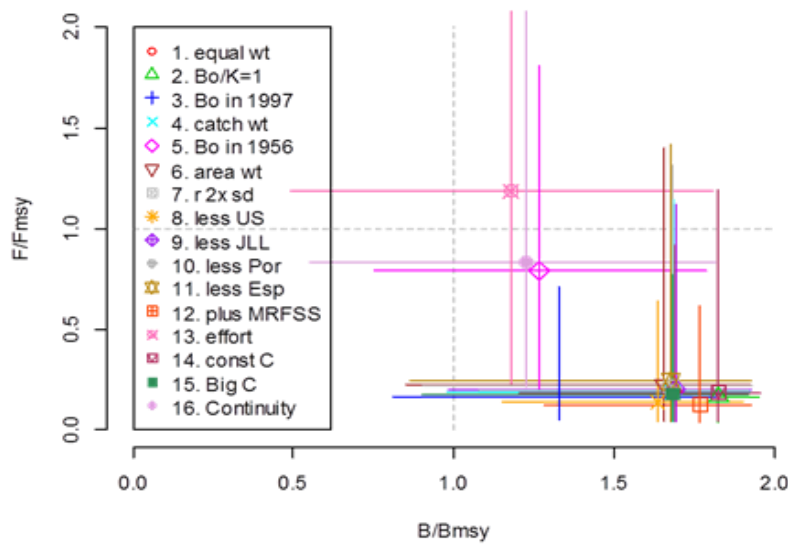
North Atlantic

South Atlantic



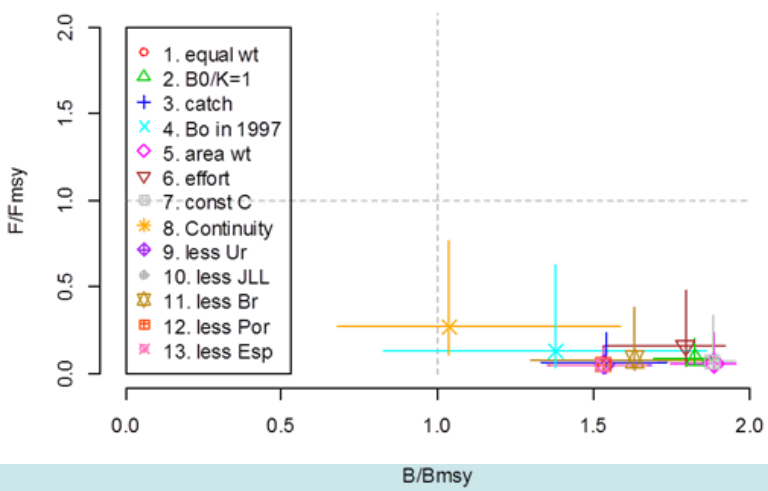


# Shortfin mako: stock status (new assessment in 2017)



North Atlantic

Overfished: Not overfished  
Overfishing: No overfishing



South Atlantic

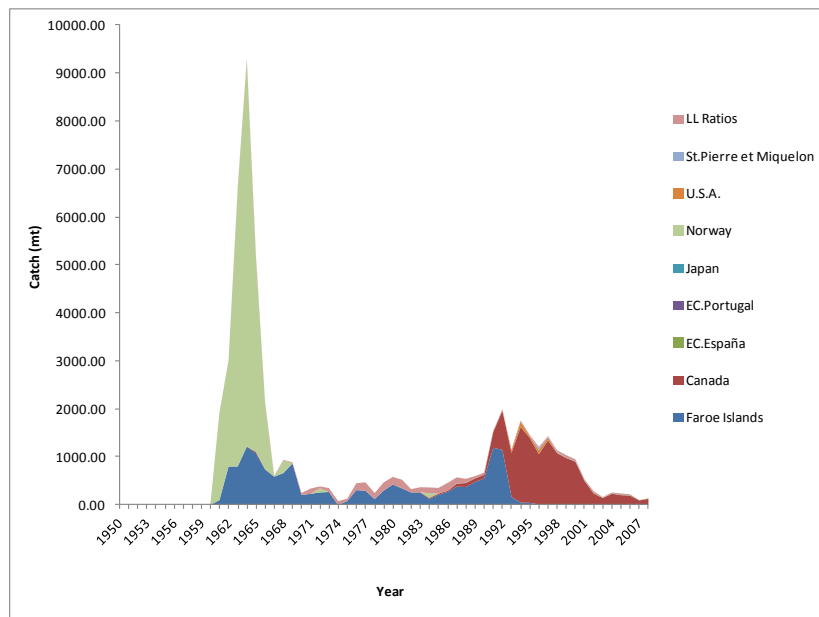
Overfished: Not overfished  
Overfishing: No overfishing



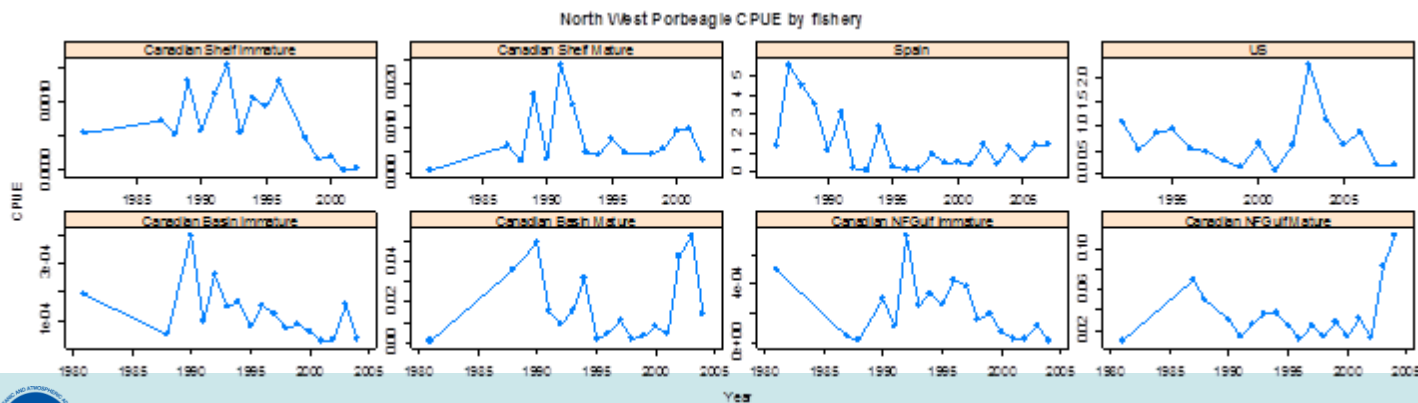
# Porbeagle: catches and CPUE

## 2009 assessment

### Northwest Atlantic



Catches



CPUEs



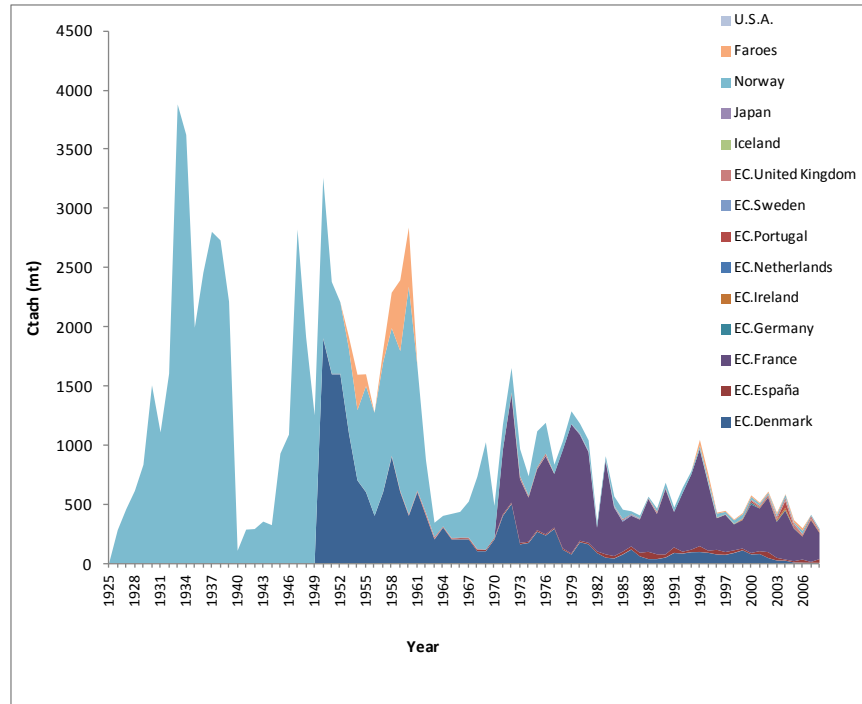
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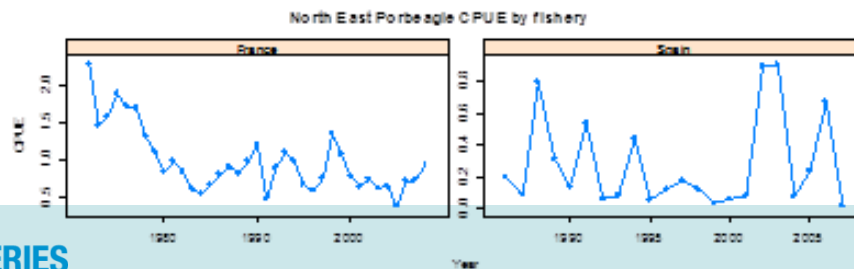
# Porbeagle: catches and CPUE

2009  
assessment

Northeast Atlantic



Catches



CPUEs



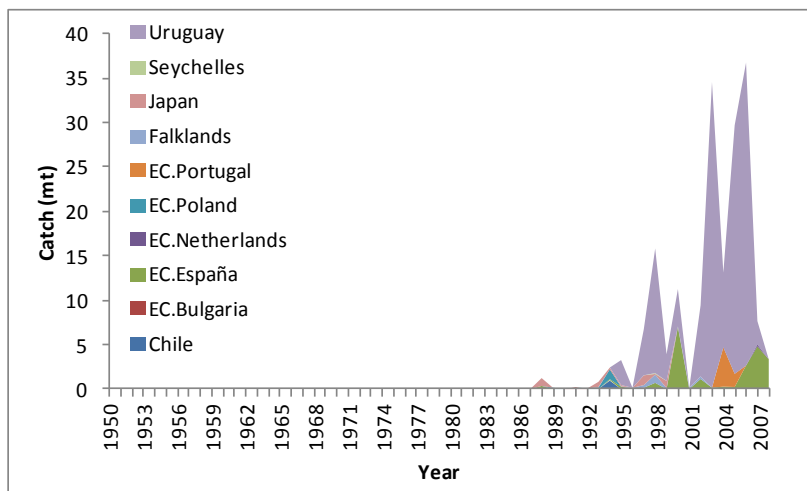
NOAA FISHERIES



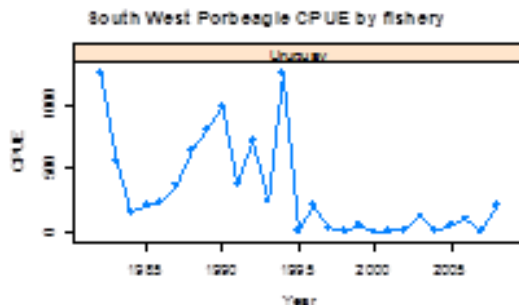
# Porbeagle: catches and CPUE

2009  
assessment

Southwest Atlantic



Catches

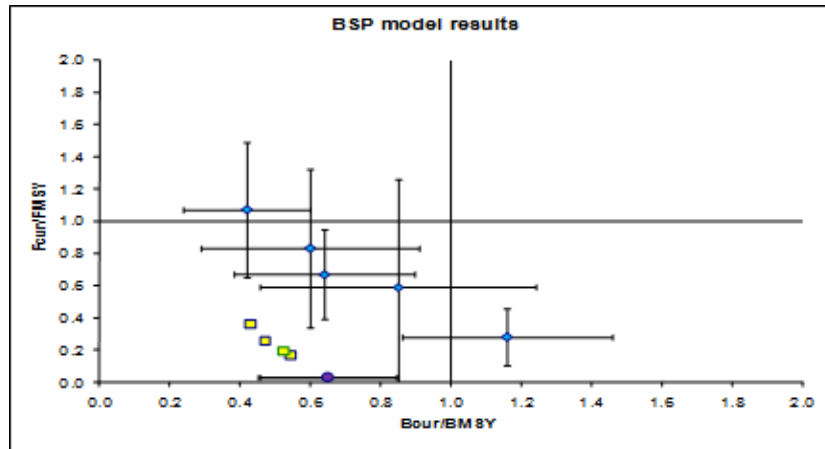


CPUEs



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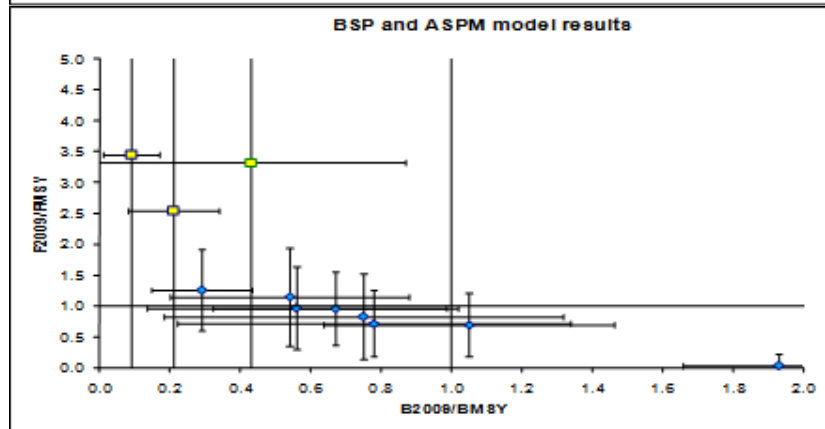
# Porbeagle: stock status



Northwest Atlantic

Overfished: Overfished

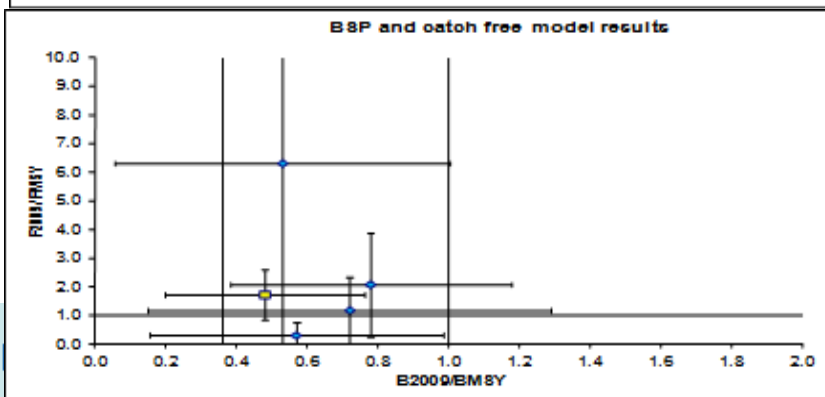
Overfishing: No overfishing



Northeast Atlantic

Overfished: Overfished

Overfishing: No overfishing

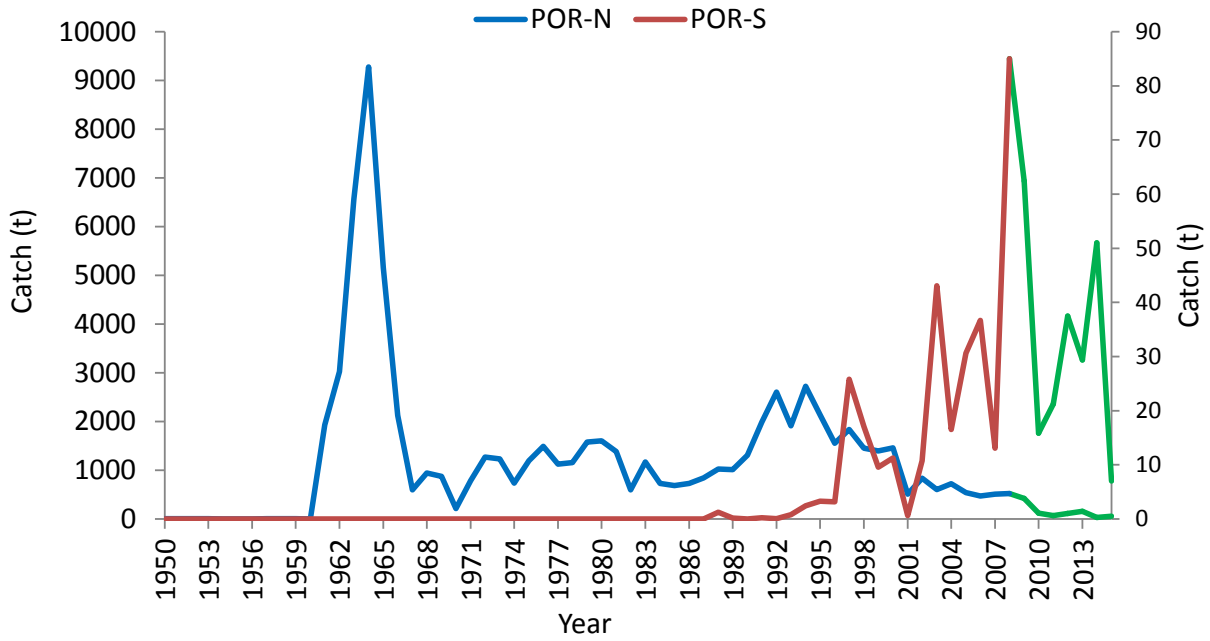


Southwest Atlantic

Overfished: Overfished

Overfishing: Undetermined

# Porbeagle: catches



↓ -467 t

↓ -78 t

Catches

# 2017 SCRS Calendar

	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	
January		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31						
February				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28							
March				1	2	3	4	5	BFT Data Prep (a)						11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	SMA Data Prep (b)		
April							1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30		
May			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31					
June					1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30				
July	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31							
August			SWO Assessment (f)							SC-ECOSYSTEMS							17	18	19	20	21	BFT Assessment (g)							29	30	31							
September			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30						
October		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31						
November				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30					
December						1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31		

Invitations were made by various CPCs to hold meetings in: (a) Mallorca, Spain; (b) Cape Verde; (c) Miami, USA; (d) Pasaia, Spain; (e) Tenerife, Spain; (f) TBA, Portugal; (g) St. Andrews, Canada



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